

# 68

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## MICRO JOURNAL

**VOLUME VI ISSUE XI • Devoted to the 68XX User • November 1984**  
**"Small Computers Doing Big Things"**

SERVING THE 68XX USER WORLDWIDE

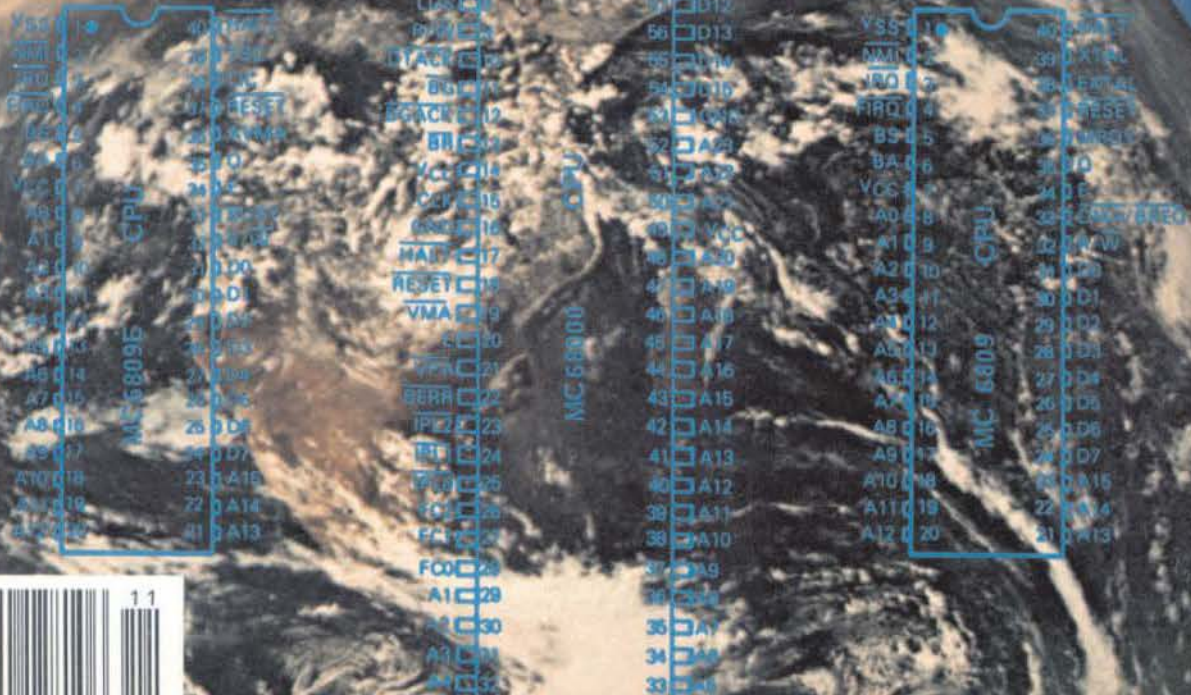


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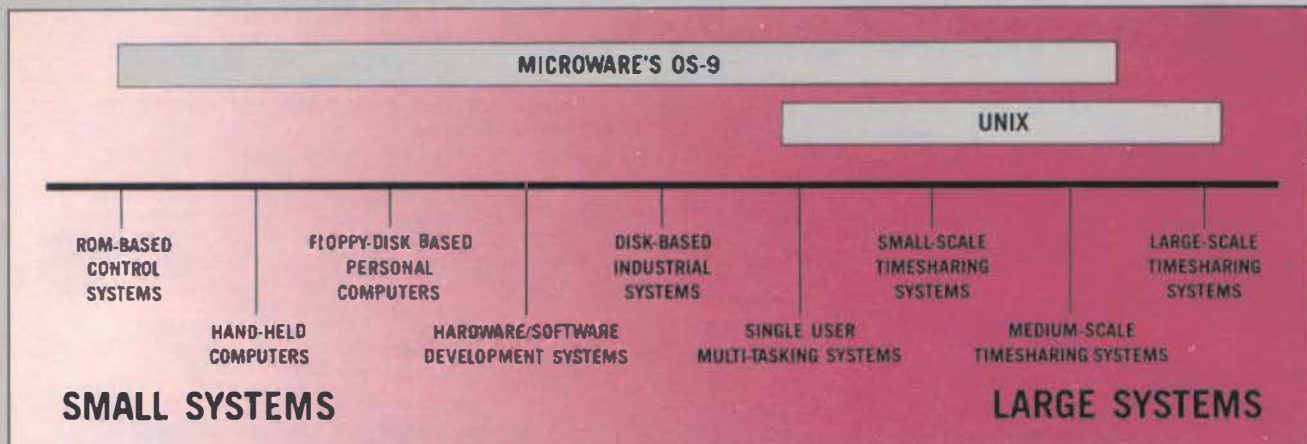
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# Only Microware's OS-9 Operating System Covers the Entire 68000 Spectrum



Is complicated software and expensive hardware keeping you back from Unix? Look into OS-9, the operating system from Microware that gives 68000 systems a Unix-style environment with much less overhead and complexity.

OS-9 is versatile, inexpensive, and delivers outstanding performance on any size system. The OS-9 executive is much smaller and far more efficient than Unix because it's written in fast, compact assembly language, making it ideal for critical real-time applications. OS-9 can run on a broad range of 8 to 32 bit systems based on the 68000 or 6809 family MPUs from ROM-based industrial controllers up to large multiuser systems.

## OS-9'S OUTSTANDING C COMPILER IS YOUR BRIDGE TO UNIX

Microware's C compiler technology is another OS-9 advantage. The compiler produces extremely fast, compact, and ROMable code. You can easily develop and port system or application software back and forth to standard Unix systems. Cross-compiler versions for

VAX and PDP-11 make coordinated Unix/OS-9 software development a pleasure.

## SUPPORT FOR MODULAR SOFTWARE — AN OS-9 EXCLUSIVE

Comprehensive support for modular software puts OS-9 a generation ahead of other operating systems. It multiplies programmer productivity and memory efficiency. Application software can be built from individually testable

software modules including standard "library" modules. The modular structure lets you customize and reconfigure OS-9 for specific hardware easily and quickly.

## A SYSTEM WITH A PROVEN TRACK RECORD

Once an underground classic, OS-9 is now a solid hit. Since 1980 OS-9 has been ported to over a hundred 6809 and 68000

systems under license to some of the biggest names in the business. OS-9 has been imbedded in numerous consumer, industrial, and OEM products, and is supported by many independent software suppliers.

### Key OS-9 Features At A Glance

- Compact (16K) ROMable executive written in assembly language
- User "shell" and complete utility set written in C
- C-source code level compatibility with Unix
- Full Multitasking/multiuser capabilities
- Modular design - extremely easy to adapt, modify, or expand
- Unix-type tree structured file system
- Rugged "crash-proof" file structure with record locking
- Works well with floppy disk or ROM-based systems
- Uses hardware or software memory management
- High performance C, Pascal, Basic and Cobol compilers

*Microware*  
**OS-9™**

MICROWARE SYSTEMS CORPORATION  
1866 NW 114th Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50322  
Phone 515-224-1929  
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# '68'

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S09-5/8 DMF disk-CDS1-8212W-Sprint 3 Printer

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Chicago, IL 60609  
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FOREIGN

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#### Items Submitted for Publication

Articles submitted for publication should be accompanied by the authors full name, address, date and telephone number. It is preferred that articles be submitted on either 5 or 8 inch diskette in TSC Editor format or STYLO format. All diskettes will be returned.

The following TSC Text Processor commands ONLY should be used (due to our proportional processor): .sp space, .pp paragraph, .fl fill and .nf no fill. Also please do not format within the text with multiple spaces. The rest we will enter at time of editing.

STYLO commands are all acceptable except the .pg page command, we print edited text files in continuous text.

All articles submitted on diskettes should be in TSC FLEX\* format, either FLEX2 6800, or FLEX9 6809 any version.

If articles are submitted on paper they should be on white 8x11 bond or better grade paper. No hand written articles (hand written or drawn art accepted). All paper submitted articles will be photo reproduced. This requires that they be typed or produced with a dark ribbon (no blue), single spaced and type font no smaller than 'elite' or 12 pitch. Typed text should be approximately 7 inches wide (will be reduced to column width of 3 1/2 inches). Please use a dark ribbon!

All letters to the editor should also comply with the above and bear a signature. Letters of 'gripes' as well as 'praise' are solicited. We attempt to publish all letters to the editor verbatim, however, we reserve the right to reject any submission for lack of 'good taste'. We reserve the right to define what constitutes 'good taste'.

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## SOFTWARE

All OS-9/FLEX systems allow you to software select either operating system.

Also included is the **GMXBUG** monitor and, in systems with 128K or more of RAM, **GMX-VDISK** for FLEX.

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Contact GIMIX for price and availability of UNIFLEX and UNIFLEX GMXIII Systems.

NOTE on all drive systems: Dual 40 track drives have about 700KB of formatted capacity; dual 80's about 1,400KB; dual 8" about 2,000KB. The formatted capacity of hard disks is about 80% of the total capacity.

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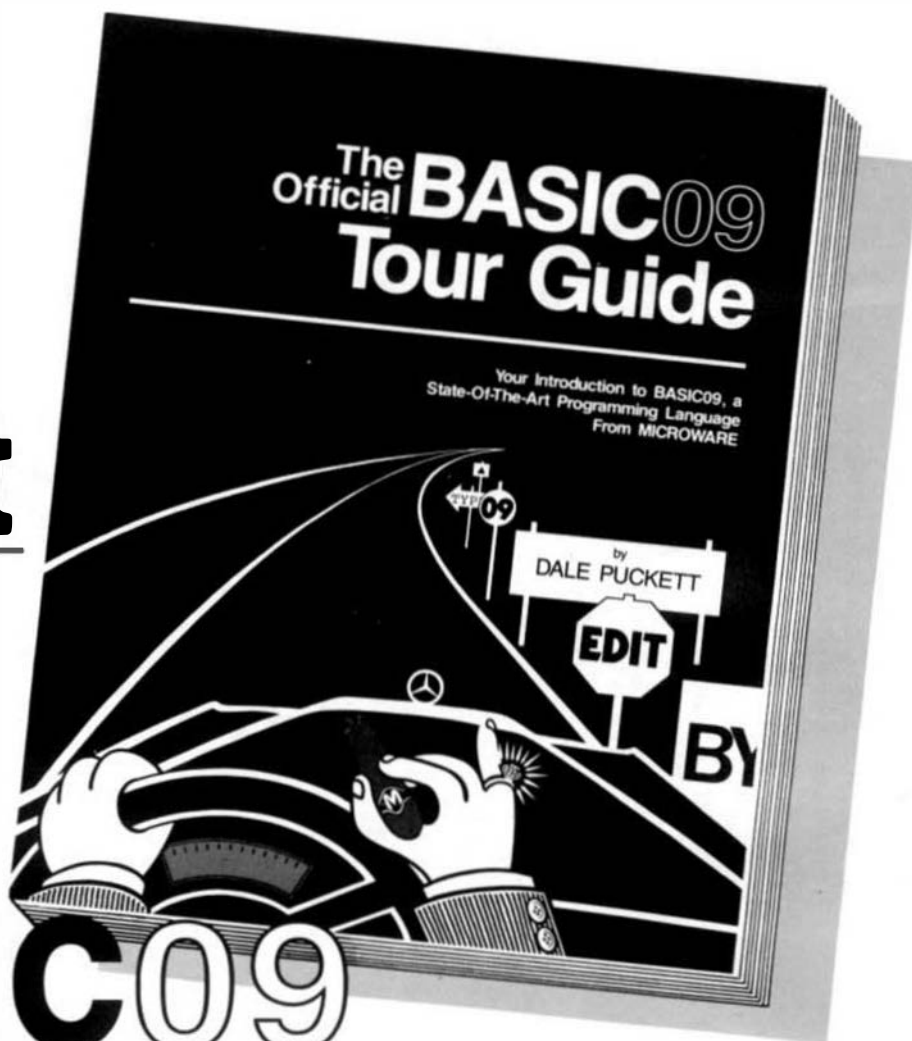
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# FLEX™ USER NOTES THE 6800-6809 BOOK

By: Ronald W. Anderson  
As published in 68 MICRO JOURNAL™

The publishers of 68 MICRO JOURNAL are proud to announce the publication of Ron Anderson's **FLEX USER NOTES**, in book form. This popular monthly column has been a regular feature in 68 MICRO JOURNAL SINCE 1979. It has earned the respect of thousands of 68 MICRO JOURNAL readers over the years. In fact, Ron's column has been described as the 'Bible' for 68XX users, by some of the world's leading microprocessor professionals. Now all his columns are being published, in whole, as the most needed and popular 68XX book available. Over the years Ron's column has been one of the most popular in 68 MICRO JOURNAL. And of course 68 MICRO JOURNAL is the most popular 68XX magazine published.

As a **SPECIAL BONUS** all the source listing in the book will be available on disk for the low price of: **FLEX™** format only — 5" \$12.95 — 8" \$16.95 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling, if ordered with the book. If ordered separately the price of the disks will be: 5" \$17.95 — 8" \$19.95 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling.

Listed below are a few of the **TEXT** files included in the book and on diskette.

All **TEXT** files in the book are on the disks.

LOGO.C1  
MEMOVE.C1  
DUMP.C1  
SUBTEST.C1  
TERMEN.C2  
M.C2  
PRINT.C3  
MODEM.C2  
SCIPKG.C1  
U.C4  
PRINT.C4  
SET.C5  
SETBAS1.C5

File load program to offset memory — ASM PIC  
Memory move program — ASM PIC  
Printer dump program — uses LOGO — ASM PIC  
Simulation of 6800 code to 6809, show differences — ASM  
Modem input to disk (or other port input to disk) — ASM  
Output a file to modem (or another port) — ASM  
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Parallel printer driver, without PFLAG — ASM  
Set printer modes — ASM  
Set printer modes — A-BASIC  
(And many more)

\*\*Over 30 **TEXT** files included in ASM (assembler) — PASCAL — PIC (position independent code) TSC BASIC-C, etc.

NOTE: .C1, .C2, etc. = Chapter 1, Chapter 2, etc.

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## THANK YOU

Seven years ago, Smoke Signal was founded to sell state-of-the-art computer products, by mail, to individual professional programmers and hardware engineers. At that time, most big companies did not believe in the power or future of micro-computers for serious computing applications. Only after you, the individual computer user, proved the viability of the micro-computer was Smoke Signal able to sell systems for business uses. However, as we progressed to become the leader in SS-50 systems, we had to add the sales and technical support services demanded by these business customers — and our prices for complete systems reflected these added costs.

With the introduction of our 68000 products, we wanted to find a way to say thanks to you, our original customers, the individual computer users, and still offer complete sales and technical support to our business customers for complete systems. We think this offer accomplishes both of these goals. We are offering you a choice of upgrade kits that will bring any SS-50 computer up to the electrical equivalent of our complete 68000 computer systems at prices far below complete system prices. In fact, the prices offered are 50% or more off our normally low prices for the components contained in the upgrade kits.

This special offer is limited to one upgrade kit per customer and is our way of saying thanks to those of you who had confidence in us from the beginning.

## THE UPGRADES

The following upgrade kits were designed so that any SS-50 system can be upgraded to 68000/UNIX.

### SWTP UPGRADE.....\$2,800.00

Contains: LMB-1A SS-50C Motherboard, DCB-4A floppy controller, PSA-1 Winchester/Tape DMA interface, SCB-68K 68000 CPU, SER-2 dual serial board, 5Mb Winchester and controller, power supply, all cables, and REGULUS.

### GIMIX UPGRADE.....\$2,500.00

Contains: Same as SWTP Upgrade except allows you to use your GIMIX motherboard, serial board and Winchester power supply.

Users of standard SMOKE SIGNAL systems may choose one of the following upgrade kits:

For SSB floppy based systems:

### SS-FD UPGRADE.....\$2,100.00

Contains: SCB-68K 68000 CPU, PSA-1 Winchester/Tape DMA interface, 5Mb Winchester and controller, power supply, all cables, and REGULUS.

For SSB Winchester based systems:

### SS-HD UPGRADE.....\$500.00

Contains: SCB-68K 68000 CPU and REGULUS.

## COMPLETE SYSTEMS

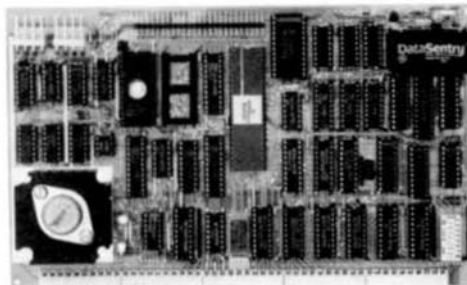
SMOKE SIGNAL is also making available complete VAR/68K™ systems at dramatic discounts. This offer is only available through SMOKE SIGNAL dealers. Contact SMOKE SIGNAL directly for information about how to order a complete VAR/68K system.

## RULES OF THE OFFER

- 1) Limit, one upgrade system per customer.
- 2) Prices valid through December 31, 1984.
- 3) Orders must be accompanied by full payment in the form of individual check or credit card authorization.
- 4) Support will only be provided for systems containing the following SMOKE SIGNAL boards: SCB-68K, DCB-4A, PSA-1, and a motherboard such as the LMB-1A with extended addressing and main terminal I/O at FF7E8.
- 5) While we feel that most static RAM boards will work with these upgrades, we only guaranty compatibility with systems containing SMOKE SIGNAL static or dynamic RAM.

VAR/68K is a trademark of Smoke Signal.  
REGULUS is a registered trademark of Alcyon Corp.; UNIX is a registered trademark of Bell Laboratories; OS9 and OS9/68K are trademarks of Microware; MACSBUG is a trademark of Motorola Inc.

\*Regulus the OS offered is UNIX Compatible



## PRODUCTS

The heart of all these upgrade kits is SMOKE SIGNAL's new SCB-68K 8 MHz 68000 CPU Board. This standard (5 1/2" x 9") board will replace a SCB-69 CPU Board in any SMOKE SIGNAL computer with current revision boards. This board contains a real-time clock with battery back-up, 2 EPROM slots for up to 64K bytes of storage, a MACSBUG™ type monitor along with an auto boot loader and a mnemonic disassembler, plus many more features.

All upgrades also come standard with REGULUS™, a UNIX like operating system which is totally compatible with UNIX. REGULUS supports real-time tasks, shared memory, record locking and contains a shell similar to the Berkeley C shell. Along with the operating system, you get C, an editor, assembler, linking loader, interactive debugger and a word processor.

SMOKE SIGNAL is also including in many of the kits the DCB-4A double density floppy controller which can handle up to four 5" and four 8" floppies and contains 1K of buffer RAM for fast disk transfers; the PSA-1 Winchester/Tape DMA interface board which has taps for SASI and Priam disk interfaces as well as a tap for 90 ips tape streamers which are supported under both REGULUS and OS9™; either a M-256-X or M-512-X dynamic RAM board with over two years of field proven reliability; and the LMB-1A heavy duty motherboard with gold plated connectors, extended addressing and on-board baud rate generator with ten selectable baud rates.

## SOFTWARE

Software and Software Support is available only from Smoke Signal dealers. Spread Sheet, Word-Processing, Relational Database, C, Basic and Cobol are all available now. Additional system's software is becoming available every day because of the UNIX compatibility.

SMOKE SIGNAL dealers are also offering Microware's OS9/68K™ to purchasers of these upgrade kits. SMOKE SIGNAL will offer other Microware 68000 products as they become available.

## SUPPORT

Even at these "lower than PC" prices, we're not going to leave you with "PC" type support. We've arranged with one of our very technically qualified dealers to provide you with add-on software and technical support. In addition to answering your questions on how to convert your system to the 68000, he has a group of his customers who are themselves computer experts who are joining in a network that will help with even the most technical questions. We hope you will contribute your ideas to the network so that we all can benefit from new and fresh thinking. Complete details of the support available are included with the upgrade systems.

## -----ORDER FORM-----

Fill in your name, address and phone number below. Your order will be shipped UPS so please do not use P.O. Box. Check items being ordered on form. Add prices for all items selected. CA residents must add 6% for sales tax. Total the amount for your order and check payment method below.

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		<input type="checkbox"/> M-512-X RAM	948
		<input type="checkbox"/> SER-2 I/O	65
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# Flex User Notes

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## Label It

From time to time, some of you send me a bit of software on a disk. Recently, I've received a disk or two with NO LABEL. I give fair warning and notice here. A disk with no label in my scheme of things is considered to be blank or at least ready to be reformatted. When I scrap a disk, I pull off the label and put it in the pile. When I need a disk, I find one without a label and format it. If you send me something and you really want me to look at it, LABEL IT, and I don't mean by writing something in the quarter square inch blank area of the disk manufacturer's label. While you are at labeling the disk, please include complete information about the disk. Generally it would be best to send software in single sided, single density (40 track is OK) format. I can read that with no trouble. Any format that is more dense, is supplier dependent. That is, a double density disk formatted with SWTPC versions of flex can't be read with GIMIX FLEX and vice versa. I recently received a disk with minimal label, and found out by reading the system information record, that it had 80 tracks of ten sectors each. That makes it single sided, single density, but 80 tracks. I can read the disk at work, and copy it to another format, but it would be nice if the label would give me a clue as to the format!

If you are like me, you run out of the disk labels supplied with a box of disks, long before the disks are "dedicated" to some permanent files, or are worn out. A long time ago I introduced another FLEX user to Avery removable labels, available in nearly any office supply store. Their type S-1648 are 1" by 3" and are ideal for labeling 5 1/4" disks. Their S-6424 are 1 1/2" by 4" and are ideal for labeling 8" disks. The "removable" labels come in yellow boxes. They are easily removable for a year or two, and come off with a little greater difficulty after that. The non-removable ones come in blue boxes, and are removable only with solvent, even immediately after application. If you re-use disks as I do, you will want the removable kind. They won't fall off, but they can be peeled. Incidentally, stubborn sticky old labels can be removed with some care, by applying a small amount of paint THINNER (NOT PAINT REMOVER) to the label and letting the adhesive soften. After peeling the paper away, a little paint thinner on a paper towel will remove the remaining adhesive. Be careful not to allow the thinner to flow into the disk jacket. I hesitate to mention that lighter fluid (naphtha) will work even better. I use it safely because I don't smoke. If you do use it BE CAREFUL.

## History

A couple of days ago I received a copy of a review by Don Williams of the book "Fire in the Valley", a history of the microcomputer industry, and a very inaccurate one according to Don. It seems that the authors of this book had gotten all fired up over the early 8080 and Z-80 machines, and nearly forgot that those other processors existed at all. In fact, Southwest Technical Products Corp., was the very first microcomputer company, and they, unlike many of the original S-100 suppliers, are still around. Don's review should have appeared by now, so I won't repeat what he said. You can look it up for yourself.

Don mentioned names of several people who were instrumental in the early days of 68XX computers, both in the hardware and software areas. I'd like to expand a little on the software end of things. Those of us who started early on this bus will remember Bob Uiterwyk as the author of a very good BASIC interpreter (which cost \$15 in the cassette version, from SWTPC). I'd like to think a little about some of the other names in the software area, folks who contributed to the wealth of software that we have, and some who are now contributing.

Don didn't mention the late Ed Smith, who was active in the area of assemblers. Ed had a relocatable assembler available, and if I remember correctly, also a disassembler that he called a "Source Generator". Don did mention Technical Systems Consultants. I remember their early ads in Kilobaud Microcomputing during its first year. TSC was selling games in 6502 and 6800

assembler code. Soon after that, they had an assembler, EDIT and PR, a rather complete text processor, (all on cassette initially). Later when I added a pair of disk drives, the operating system was a thing called FDOS by Bob Uiterwyk again. When FLEX2 came along, of course, TSC modified what they then had available so that it would work from and to disk. Tom Crosley was responsible for a very nice 6800 language called SPL/M, and the ever elusive PIE text editor (still not ever distributed by anyone for 68 and 6809).

It was not until about the time of the coming of the 6809 that software really "took off", however. At about that point a company called Lucidata came on the scene with what I called at the time "The first non-toy compiler for the 6800. I suppose some folks would argue with me that both Strubalt by Jack Hemenway and Bob Grapel, and \*Software Dynamics BASIC compiler by Ira Baxter, predated Lucidata Pascal, and I would have to yield to the point that they were earlier. Lucidata Pascal was written by Nigel Bennee and Dave Gibby with able help from Eileen Bennee. It was followed shortly by a 6809 version, and Lucidata is still alive and well in England. \*Eds Note: Software Dynamics and Ira Baxter are also still around, I hear from Ira every now and then. DMW

Just about that time, the software started appearing more rapidly. Stylograph by Bob Bundy appeared (Bob has sold the rights to Stylograph to Great Plains Computers since then). Tom Crosley sent me a copy of PIE for evaluation, with intentions of marketing it for the 68XX community. In fact, if you have all the issues of '68' Micro Journal, you will find reviews of PIE by myself and another 68XX enthusiast named Randy Lewis.

At about that point, there was a sudden increase in the availability of standard languages. Omegasoft Pascal by Bob Reimiller appeared, and the company with which I was associated at the time, bought a copy and used it for a large software project. Some of the early "C" compilers began to appear at that time also, some of which have apparently disappeared from the marketplace. Currently, we have the efforts of James McCosh in his various versions of a "C" compiler for FLEX, Uniflex, and OS-9. I'll have to plead lack of knowledge of programmers names on some of these, but we have the Introl "C" compiler, Compusense Crunch Cobol, the very new K-BASIC compiler by Frank Hoffman, and of course PL/9 by Graham Trot.

I should mention that Frank Hoffman has written a very nice line of cross assemblers that run on the 6809, to produce code for nearly all the other 8 bit processors and some of the 16 bit, at least the 68000 at this point. Who have I left out? Well, there's Al Jost of DynaSoft, who wrote DynaSoft Pascal, Dyna-C, DynaStar editor, and DynaForm text processor. Then there's Phil Lucido who was responsible for Dynamite, the disassembler, and of course Bud Pass with his Super Sleuth, Tabula Rasa, and a number of other software items.

Oh, and there are the implementations of Forth for the 68XX by Ray Talbot, and the slight variation X-FORTH by Chuck Eakers. How about John Alford's Screditor III also. Let's see. I have to mention Peter Stark, (Star Kits) who had the first spelling checker for our systems. His other products include HUMBUG, the monitor, and STARDOS, a disk operating system that is pretty much like FLEX. Speaking of spelling checkers reminds me that Dale Puckett has contributed to our software too with his spelling checker, a neat program that tested the "level" of english text, and some other goodies. Almost forgot Dan Farnsworth who wrote SPEL.LB and is presently working on several other products.

I hope I haven't left too many people out. Unfortunately, I haven't gotten acquainted with all the people at the companies that are larger. I can't name the people at TSC (other than Dave Shirk and Dan Vanada) but I should mention that in addition to FLEX and their early EDIT, PR, and 68 assembler, they were responsible for Extended BASIC, DEBUG, a Sort Merge package, a Pascal, two 6809 assemblers, and a number of other software products.

At Microware, I can only name Ken Kaplan. Of course you all know that Microware wrote the OS-9 operating system and BASIC09. They are also responsible for some other software that we have used from time to time such as A/BASIC. I knew some of the folks at Great Plains about the time that they started, but we have lost touch.

Well, that's enough of that. Do you get the idea that a lot of people have been involved with these 68XX systems? I agree with Don that some of them should have



deserved mention in the history of the microcomputer industry, along with the hardware suppliers, SWTPC, Smoke Signal, and GIMIX.

I'm with you Don, regarding the longevity of our SS50 systems. I just bought a used one that was 6 months older than my personal one, having been purchased in the Fall of 1976 from SWTPC. It has been upgraded and modernized over the years, and all it needs is a DMA disk controller and a pair of 8" drives to make it a very capable development system, the equal of mine and the more modern SWTPC system we have at the company (bought used also). Actually it won't be used that way, however. I have added the drives and disk controller to a development system at work so we can store customer software for each machine that we deliver, on a 5 inch disk (one disk for each machine). The remainder of the system will have a newer disk controller and a pair of double sided drives added to it to make another system.

With the addition of a 256K Computer Excellence memory board to my personal system, I have just upgraded to 2 Mhz operation AND added the capability of 752 sectors of Virtual Disk as well. These two upgrades make the chore of compiling programs much more pleasant. I can generally put the compiler on Virtual Disk and decrease the compile time by about half over the 8" disk drives. The speed change also makes a significant difference in the compile time. The company for which I work "most of the time" has put probably 150 6809 stand alone computer systems into the Industrial applications market in the past couple of years. We went SS-50 bus because of the availability of off-the-shelf cards for our initial development of hardware. Though we have since designed our own hardware cards (after we figured out what we needed), we are still on the SS-50 bus, which has several advantages for us. First of all, we can plug any of our cards into the SS-50 development system for testing and debugging. Second, if we need something we don't have, we can generally buy it on the SS-50 bus.

I think I've probably said more than enough in defense of the SS-50 bus. Don, I couldn't agree more, that we who use this bus and the 68XX processor are doing significant things with our systems and hardware.

#### Peter Stark Comes to Ann Arbor

No kidding, one day last week I received a call from Peter indicating that he and his family were about 35 miles from here, and that they were going to camp for a few days just about 10 miles from our house. After a couple of false starts due to some car problems that the Starks had, we managed to get together for an hour's chat, and we got our families together for a Saturday evening. I've talked to Peter a number of times on the phone, and we have corresponded for several years with reference to software. It was very nice to meet Peter and his family. I hope they had no further car problems on the remainder of their vacation trip. Keep in touch, Peter.

#### Personal Note

If Don will permit me a couple lines here, I have lost touch with the world's greatest microcomputer salesman, who, lest I heard, now works directly for Motorola somewhere in the Detroit area. If any of you know where I can get in touch with Jack Halliwell, please send me a note with the information, or if by chance Jack, you still read my column, please get in touch with me at Hines Industries in Ann Arbor.

#### Response

In the Aug/Sept Issue of '68' Larry Williams printed a letter from a reader, which for good reason was anonymous. I'd like to comment on that letter here. First of all, I have neither any association with Radio Shack nor any reason to like or dislike them strongly, so I think I can be reasonably neutral in this discussion.

First, I think the writer's premise was all wrong. No wonder everything went poorly. I quote "I owned a computer from SWTPC which included dual disk drives and the FLEX operating system. Needing a better version of a 6809 based computer I bought a Radio Shack 64K Color Computer." Now who but someone who expected something for nothing could expect a \$200 Color Computer to be an upgrade from a "component system". The writer missed the whole point of component systems. Regardless of the state of his system, I would have gladly bought a Color Computer and traded him even for what he had! Let me explain further.

I bought my original SWTPC system with 2 4K memory

boards a "C" Interface and a 6800 processor. I also bought a cassette interface and their CT-1024 terminal kit. That was the start. Since then the upgrade process has continued for 8 years. I added a pair of disk drives a year later. I bought a few 8K memory boards, and added a couple of 16K to round out 56K of memory when I bought a pair of 8" drives, a power supply and a OMAF disk controller board. SWTPC continues to this day to release hardware modification instructions for upgrades. The 6809 processor board was installed with half an hour's worth of simple modifications to that old mother board. I just a couple weeks ago replaced my memory boards with a 256K dynamic board from Computer Excellence. That enabled me to upgrade the system to 2 Mhz operation, since I had the 2 Mhz MP-09 board but was limited by a 32K dynamic RAM board to 1 Mhz operation previously.

You might ask how much of the original computer I still have, and how much it has all cost in the long run. Of course all that is left of the original is the box and mother board. Have you checked the Ad's for boxes and mother boards? They currently cost more than a Color Computer! The point is not how much I have spent, but what I have been able to save over a long period by not having to throw the whole system away and buy a bigger one every couple of years. I don't think my investment per year has been all that much. The point is that with a Color Computer you have a device with very limited expansion capability. (I know, there are 80 column display boards, lower case boards, and even bus expansion systems that allow you to add on ad nauseum, but you still have the original system with some fixed built in limitations.

The original SWTPC system had a parallel port programmed as a serial interface, more or less like the CoCo has now. It was limited to 1200 baud maximum, which seemed fast at the time, but is intolerable with a screen editor. SWTPC recognized the limitations about the time FLEX2 for the 6800 appeared, and indicated that FLEX wouldn't run with the old "C" interface but that a true serial interface was required. Cost of that interface was, I believe, \$40. Problem solved. Now the user could have interrupt input handling and a screen editor could go about busily updating the whole screen and never miss a character being input by a 100 WPM typist. I don't type that fast, but I think I hit or exceed that speed in bursts now and then.

The CoCo has a parallel port similar to the old SWTPC arrangement. You can't change it except to buy one of the bus expander boxes for more than the cost of the CoCo, and then you still have to buy the serial interface for it! I have a CoCo. I really gave it a try for some serious use. I can't edit on it with my external terminal, because it misses characters. Anyone used to an 80 column terminal will NEVER be happy with 32 or 40 or 51 for any SERIOUS use.

I'm going to get my two cents in here about operating systems too. OS-9 is a very good one. On a system with four terminals and a hard disk, it is right at home, looking very much like UNIX. Putting it in a CoCo is like putting a 1000 HP jet engine on a rowboat! OS-9 has a "software clock". Due to the CoCo using interrupts for its disk accesses, the time update ceases whenever you access the disk. The clock loses time quickly. You have "multi-tasking" so you can attach a real terminal to the serial port. Because of the port actually being a programmed parallel port, you can only run the external terminal at 300 baud. Any faster rate will cause missed characters, because you can't shut off the other tasks even if you only want to run the single external terminal. The clock interrupts keep coming and the system keeps looking at the CoCo keyboard as well. That shoots down using a stender terminal with the CoCo and S-9. Let me again emphasize that the problem is not with OS-9 but is a built in limitation of the CoCo.

You've probably heard about the programmed serial port vs the "true" serial port before. Maybe I can explain what the problem is. The programmed serial port inputs a character by waiting for a "start pulse" from the external serial data source. When this is received, the program enters what is called a timing loop to wait for the next serial bit to arrive. It samples that bit and again waits, etc. until it has one character stored. If the processor is doing anything but running the input character program (that is, waiting for a start pulse) when you type a key on a serial terminal, it will be "out of sync" and miss the key or interpret it incorrectly. A "true" serial port contains the hardware necessary to detect the start bit and capture and store a whole

character without any help from the processor. Further, it transfers the character to a "receive buffer" and can actually begin to accept a second character before the processor has to do anything. When the character is transferred to the receive buffer, it sets a "flag" in a control register to indicate "receive buffer full". In operation with OS-9 it also signals the IRQ interrupt line. The processor will then stop and read the character. Even without the interrupt feature, if the program that is being run checks for the RBF flag faster than the user can input characters, none are missed.

Now to get back to the main point, I'm NOT saying the CoCo is a toy or a useless pile of junk. You can't begin to put together a SS-50 system for its price. If you want to find out whether you will take to computing like a duck to water (as I did) without investing \$5000, by all means get one. It can grow with you to the extent of adding disk drives, FLEX, OS-9 (if you like) a printer, an 80 column display board (via a monitor) and a lot of other things. If you really get serious about computing, you WILL outgrow the CoCo. If you don't get serious about computing, you are not out a fortune, and you can probably sell what you have to someone else, or as Lane Lester suggested in his letter in the same issue of '68' use it for a doorstop. (Or buy some game software and use it to entertain the family and guests.)

With a CoCo, if you are willing to put up with the display format, you can run BASIC, PASCAL, "C", PL/9 and several other languages. You can certainly learn to program with it.

With a SS-50 system, you have an "infinitely expandable" system that can be upgraded periodically without starting over again from scratch each time. Will I have a hard disk on my system some day? I think that is inevitable. Will I have a 68000 processor in it? That is most likely to happen too, if someone is kind enough to provide a usable operating system that is, or can be made compatible with the hardware. SWTPC has not let me down so far. All the upgrades have been possible with minimal foil cuts and jumpers. What is really inevitable in the area of microcomputers is progress. SWTPC couldn't possibly have envisioned the availability of a 256K memory board back in 1976 when they built their first machines, but it was little trick to get it to run in that old box with the original mother board in it!

The letter that started all this contained a complaint that technical information is not available from Radio Shack. I can't dispute that fact, and it is really too bad, because a fair percentage of those buying the CoCo are well able to add to it and make it more suitable for their needs given sufficient information. SWTPC has ALWAYS from day 1 provided COMPLETE documentation. That includes parts lists and schematics of EVERYTHING in the system... The earlier documentation even included the source listing of the monitor software. Though the latest SBUG-E source has not been officially released, there are many copies of well commented listings floating around among the users.

If there is any reason for criticism of SWTPC and TSC who are responsible for FLEX, it might be that they gave out too much information. FLEX is understandable, and TSC documented disk formats and file formats to the extent that it is virtually impossible for anyone to "copy protect" a disk that contains software that runs under FLEX. A knowledgeable FLEX user can "break" the protection scheme in short order. (I know, I've done it myself on a couple occasions in which suppliers have tried to protect some things, eg. FHL's PUTBOOT in their CoCo FLEX.)

On the other hand, the relative "transparency" of FLEX doesn't get in the way of programmers writing application software, and that, I believe, is why so much software exists for this small sector of the computer industry.

As usual, I've gotten too wordy and overrun my target size for this column. See you next month.

**Editor's Note:** The text of my 'review' of Fire in the Valley is appended hereto. It is strictly MY opinion, and I stand by it. So far I have received about 30 or 40 replies to a short mailing I did to advertisers and others I thought might be interested. All but one agreed. The lone dissenter felt that although the book was indeed biased, misleading and full of whole and half truths, it would be better off to not exacerbate the situation. Also that I was also biased in my opinion. That is where the difference is - I tell you so - they never do!

I guess there is merit to such argument, however, in this case the widespread circulation of this book, from a publisher who in the past has enjoyed a fairly decent reputation, makes it all the worse. To us they will always be suspect hereafter. The errors and omissions appear more deliberate than accident. A continuing example of what the \$50 bus crowd has endured from other publication sources. For many of us who depend on the \$50 Bus group, for a living, and personally know or knew many who were ignored, it is an affront. Worse even than some of the rudeness and arrogance I have experienced over this since.

We have a few who were given their start and have been accepted by YOU the \$50 Bus users, your support and \$\$\$\$\$\$\$'s as well. Now other pastures look greener, soon they will wander as others have before. I wish them well; I sincerely desire that they will make it, better so than some of the others who went. The expansion and expense of doing business 'away from home' is far greater than most ever imagined in their wildest scheming.

We have tolerated far more than those others will. We require no 'national' service, we still ship bad product back to 'the factory'. We are still willing to wait a few weeks while you get around to our stuff. Oh, I know some of the others didn't like it, but who cares, they are no longer with us, they too are 'over there'. We have accepted 20 to 50 version of your software, while you worked on the 'bug' between other new projects. We paid our good money for the boards with kludges, patches and wire jumped all over the place. Some of them you never did fix, and never will, but we endured. We have become a group of 'work-arounders'! We are very unique in that we can actually fix it sometimes when you can't - or won't! Try that on those guys 'over there'.

All of which makes us the more thankful for the faithful who stick by us, help us with support and product up-grade, answer our questions without snide remarks as to our mental state, and all the other attention given our inquiry, even if we don't know quite as much about it as you do! We may not be the largest market you could service but we appreciate and support. Wait till they get 'over there'. You and I will still be around after some are devoured 'over there'. A pity!

Stupid as it sounds they even insist on manuals you can read, they don't like dot matrix, especially if it has penciled in changes, slashes through, etc. They want type setting, cartoons or at least some type illustrations, they want hard binding, not looseleaf. Not that it is better, but that is what the new competition is doing. A lot of floss and flurry. Why we even support, (over 80% of us) a magazine that is photocopy and computer generated. But they wouldn't, that is unless it had what we (or they) wanted and was not getting elsewhere.

And marketing cost - Man! - most of the smaller entries need hundreds of thousands of dollars just to get into the fray. That was with like 6 or better zeros! No more black and white under thousand buck (and for some much less) per page of advertising. Not only that but which of the multitude of magazine do you advertise after going 'over there'. Of course you could try it as several have and not advertise - but then hunger gnaws deep, and by that time it really won't matter, the hole is dug by then - just a matter of time. And if you attempt to 'match' the better known and more popular guys (notice I did not say better (quality wise)) You had better have a direct line into the US Mint, or be willing to take on 'venture money' to the extent that you wake up some day and find you don't have an office to go to anymore. Those guys insure their best interest. And after all what have you got - other than a good (I would hope) product? The old mouse trap saying gets more true each passing day, in this business.

I guess there is a lot more I could say, but I trust that I have made my point. I wish all of you well, I sincerely do, but I also have an obligation to thousands of readers, who paid me good money, mostly hard earned, to keep them informed of stuff to buy and information on how to use it and fix it if necessary. And that includes letting them know if you intend to leave the old bus. And are or are not going to be expected to continue to support what you took our money for.

Why? Simple, if you are not going to be around to support, fix and maintain to current standards, then we want to know. After all we all have too many dearly paid for products that, like war orphans, have been abandoned. If you sell it to me and there is absolutely, I mean ABSOLUTELY nothing wrong with it, and it will never need fixing, well then I guess the above won't apply to you. Else I am concerned!

If we are just a short term, stepping stone then let us know. There are plenty of others willing to stand behind and support their product. And I for one am tired of being considered second-rate. We sure were not second-rate when you started up back then, and you



sure never let me know when you took my \$\$\$\$'s, but at least you owe me that. And we all want to know. Surprising how many of us intent to sit around!

DMW

### A Short 'Book' Review!

Reference: FIRE IN THE VALLEY, a biased, inaccurate ego-trip of the beginning of the microcomputer industry, and the folks who were involved. Not all truth and not all wrong - something I would call "Vaporware".

Recently I received another computer book, "Fire in The Valley", by Paul Freiberger and Michael S. Malone, published by Osborne/McGraw-Hill, Berkley, California. With the exception of a few references to some of our early pioneers, both individually and as viable microcomputer manufacturers, the reader is left with the impression that the S50 Bus, 68XX segment didn't make it. This is at the least gross stupidity on the part of the authors and publisher, and indicates the attitudes of ill informed (and liking it that way) others who have apparently spent all these years, like that long legged Australian bird, with their heads down and their butts waving.

I cannot disagree with their recital of those instances concerning the computer from the days of Babbage to the birth of the IBM PC. Who really knows it all? But I do take a strong position concerning their views of the birth of the microcomputer era! They grossly err by omission! To say they are in total error as concerns those they DID mention, would be presumptuous on my part, however, it appears that some egos were massaged while the pen toyed unmercifully with others. To ignore a small (however, not in the beginning) but absolutely vital and valuable part of the activity revolving around the birth-pangs of microcomputers, as we know them today, is at best, poorly researched journalism in this particular publication! The S50 Bus and 68XX crowd contributed a significant portion of the creativity of those days, and extend even to today. They should have been acknowledged throughout the warp and weave of this book, to the degree they contributed!

They made slight mention of the worlds oldest existing (still in business) microcomputer manufacturer, Southwest Technical Products Corp of San Antonio, Texas. That certainly rated mention, but didn't! GIMIX is not even listed in the index, nor is SSB, Percom or many of the others, still going strong. How about their early efforts? Maybe it is because many of those responsible for this pile of mis-information were involved, to some degree or another, in the demise of some or most of the other early day microcomputer manufacturers, due to their ineptness and/or stupidity and cannot bear to believe that the S50 Bus DID survive and is going strong! Need I mention Altair, IMSAI, SOL, The Digital Group, Polymorphics, Vector Graphic and many others. All of which had many of these 'now' experts, as directive or development personnel! What a pity, I thought better of McGraw-Hill. Oh, by the way, look at their failures and look at ours, some difference - I should think it would at least rate one or more pages out of 282!

To the best I can find out, not one of the authors, editors, the publisher, etc., contacted anyone directly connected with those who have some knowledge of the S50 Bus and 68XX computers, and there are MANY. What was written about us was apparently penned by one of the S100 (failure) crowd.

It was actually ALL of us, the S100, the kits, the bare boards, the S50, the Jobs, Meyers, Wozniaks, Dons, Shirks, Gates, Mauches, Kaplans, Uiterwyks, Hammonds, and all the others (my apologies to those I left out). To read this mess one is left to believe that the S50 Bus (68XX) never MADE IT. What we did was that we made better microcomputers then, and still do! Not to mention the superior software we have always had, FLEX, OS9, STRUBAL, DOS68/69, etc. There are more S50 Bus 68XX microcomputers in heavy industrial, scientific and government high level operations than ALL the original S100 Bus systems. How many 7 or 8 year old S100 systems are still running? Not many, it was a BUST! (Talk about noise.) Most S50 Bus machines are still grinding along! Don't believe me, well, come to our office and I can prove it from our files. We (S50 - 68XX) never made it big for several reasons, but we made it, we're still here! Where is the original S100 bus? Only the blowhards left!

If, after reading 'Fire in the Valley', you believe it, then I guess you also believe that most micros were designed over coffee and pie. Betcha it's in sequel two.

-30-

DMW

\*Editors Note: At the time this industry was starting, 1975-1978, more or less, the S50 and 6800 group accounted for over 45% of microcomputers. This included SWTPC, GIMIX, SSB, Sphere, Wavemate, and a few lesser know others. Also some manufacturers such as MITS (Altair) and OSI were doing both 6800 and 8080 systems.

All of this was for the most part the results of the efforts of many individuals, during all this time Motorola seemed to make less effort on behalf of the 6800 than any of the other competing manufacturers. It seems their marketing vision was a few years lagging, always. It was and is a shame for even those who made microcomputers with the 'other' chips, notably the 8008, 8080 and Z80 acknowledged that the 6800 was the better microprocessor. Another reason was the financial 'taps' some journalist had with some 8080 microprocessor manufactures, it was always difficult to get articles published in some computer magazines of the day. That is WHY and the ONLY reason 68 Micro Journal started up! The 6800 had the power but not the support. So, you see why I am so hot on 'support'.

I don't intend to keep kicking a dead horse, as the saying goes. As for me it really does not matter, but it is a crock for those I actually know should have been included and got the 'stick'!

DMW

## OS9 USER NOTES

by Peter Dibble  
('OS-9 Users Notes' Columnist;  
'68' Micro Journal)

### More Games with Directories

Last month I discussed reading from directory files. This month I'll stay with directories and add some additional tricks.

The directory formatting command at the end of this column is a useful version of the DIR command. It doesn't illustrate any ideas that weren't covered in last column, but it is a single program that is faster to use than the pipeline of programs I presented last month.

I have found that C is a good language to write quick system level programs. Of course, assembly language still has some advantages over any high-level language; not least that almost everyone with OS-9 has an assembler. A functional directory command in assembler would be just too long for one month's column, and not interesting enough to devote several months to. So the first program for this column is an integrated directory formatting command. It is written in C. It could be translated to Basic09 without too much trouble, but that would require loading Basic09 every time you want to list a directory. Sorry, people without C.

Radio Shack is selling Microware C at an impressively low price. It is a good investment.

Think of dr as a good starting point. It is easy to get it to sort its output. Adding the ability to select only files that meet certain criteria for display is harder but useful enough to be worth the effort. Working this up into a full-screen command environment is something I've been promising myself time to do ..., but I haven't yet.

You can write directories as well as read them. There are good reasons to do this. Renaming files is one reason. The rename command simply writes a new name over the old one in the directory. Deleting and creating files are other reasons to write into directory files, but RBFMan takes care of those operations. Most other things you would want to change about a file involve writing into the file descriptor sector for the file. That's just as easy as writing the directory. Easier.

There is an easy way to make C read a directory file, but there is no equivalent method for updating directory files. The combination of attributes required to write into a directory can be used from assembler, or from the lower level parts of C, but it seems Microware wanted to make it a bit tricky to mess with directories. Before I continue let me add to their implicit warning. If you are not brave and experienced don't even think of updating a directory file!

Writing on directory files is a dangerous thing to do. If you make a mistake you can loose files, or even mess up the structure of the entire disk. DON'T jump in and try programs that write to the directory on an important disk.

After making certain that your program doesn't damage the directory under normal circumstances, think about extraordinary situations. How does the program behave if the system crashes right in the middle of the change? Can trouble start if two programs try to make a change at the same time? What will a program reading the directory while you make your change see?

Another area where you can get in trouble and discover interesting new possibilities hidden in the OS-9 file structure is the possibility for having several directory entries pointing at the same file.

There is a link count in each file descriptor sector. This count will always be one in normal OS-9 systems, but the field offers a way to tell OS-9 (RBFMan) that there are two or more directory entries pointing at a file.

This trick will certainly cause DCHECK to have fits. If you link two directory files to one another (not just with the .. file name) DCHECK will loop between the two directories forever. Even if you don't get this extreme DCHECK will note that more than one file is using the clusters belonging to the file with which you're playing. I have a deadly fascination with this trick of linking to a file several times. The parts to put it together are all there, but for some reason Microware hasn't built it into OS-9 yet.

My bet is that the reason for multiple links to files remaining dormant in OS-9 is the recovery problem this feature creates. It is impossible to update the link count in the file descriptor and change the number of directory entries pointing to a file simultaneously. There is always some way to crash the system between the two operations -- pulling the plug will work.

If the link count is greater than the number of directory entries actually linked to the file, the file will eventually be left around with no directory entries pointing at it. The disk space for the file will be allocated and there will be no easy way to return them.

If the link count is smaller than the number of directory entries linked to the file the result is worse. Eventually there will be a directory entry

pointing to a file that isn't there. The sectors that used to belong to the file could be part of another file or just free; in either case the result is chaos.

It looks impossible. There is trouble whether the file descriptor is updated before or after the directory. There are two solutions.

One possibility is to live with the problem. An experienced user can fuss around with the allocation map and directory entries, and repair a damaged disk. Most of the work can be automated. Computers don't crash often. Chances are they won't crash in the middle of a directory operation....

The alternative is to use "stable storage" tricks. Every time OS-9 starts up look for evidence of a crash, and every time you update a directory prepare for one. This slows directory updates, systems startup, and even disk mounts; but it prevents users from having to worry about recovery.

Neither method sounds OS-9-like. I use the "live with the problem" method. I've never had reason to regret it, but I am prepared for the worst. The "stable storage" method is interesting ... worth a brief discussion.

Here is a way to reliably update a directory:

- 1 Copy the entire directory including file descriptors to a special spot, with its address known to recovery routines (in a table located at some known spot).
- 2 Update the copy of the directory.
- 3 Put the address of the old directory in the same table as the address of the new one with a mark indicating that it is old.
- 4 Put the address of the updated directory in the directory's parent.
- 5 Remove the new directory from the table.
- 6 Delete the old directory removing it from the table.

Step 4 involves a single operation that changes the directory structure visible to the public. Until step 4 is executed no program knows about the change. After step 4 there is a consistent updated directory.

Recovery works as follows:

- If there isn't anything in the "table"
  - no recovery necessary
- If there is a pointer marked "old" and no accompanying new directory
  - delete the old directory
- If there is only a new directory in the table
  - delete it.
- If both pointers are in the table
  - continue from step 4 in the update procedure

Things fall apart again if two processes might simultaneously update the directory, or the file descriptors attached to it. If that is permitted the protocol gets complicated. Too complicated for this column.

I'm not going to try to present a program implementing stable storage this month. Just a simple program to squeeze the null entries out of a directory.

- - -

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <ctype.h>
3 #include <unistd.h>
4 #include <direct.h>
5
```

```

6
7 static struct dirent DirEntry;
8 static FILE *openfl, *dir, *disk;
9 /*-----*/
10 * dr directory read *
11 * Read and format all the important fields in a *
12 * directory entry and the attached FDs. *
13 * To allow formatting, sorting, and searching programs *
14 * the best access to this data it is just printed *
15 * without titles. *
16 * There are no options. A directory name may be given *
17 * as a command line argument. If it isn't the current *
18 * data directory will be listed. *
19 /*-----*/
20 main(argc,argv)
21 int argc;
22 char *argv[];
23 {
24     char temp[120];
25     char device[30];
26     register int i;
27
28
29     pfl(argv);
30     argv++; /* bump past program name in argv */
31     if (argc > 1)
32         strcpy(temp,*argv);
33     else
34         strcpy(temp,"."); /* default directory */
35
36     if ((dir = fopen(temp, "r")) == NULL) /* open the directory */
37     {
38         fprintf(stderr, "Is can't be read as a directory\n", temp);
39         exit(1);
40     }
41
42
43     strcpy(device, "0"); /* default device is data directory device */
44     if (temp[0] == '/')
45     {
46         i = 0;
47         do
48             device[i] = temp[i];
49             while (i < strlen(temp));
50             device[i++] = '0';
51             device[i] = '\0';
52             fprintf(stderr, "Devices %s\n", device);
53         }
54
55     /*-----*/
56     * Open the device containing the directory *
57     * we're about to list. *
58     /*-----*/
59
60     if ((disk = fopen(device, "r")) == NULL)
61     {
62         fprintf(stderr, "Error %d opening device %s\n", error(disk), device);
63         exit(1);
64     }
65
66     fread(&DirEntry, sizeof DirEntry, 1, dir); /* skip . entry */
67     fread(&DirEntry, sizeof DirEntry, 1, dir); /* skip .. entry */
68
69     /*-----*/
70     * Read and format directory entries until EOF *
71     * Null entries are ignored by putEntry. *
72     /*-----*/
73     while (fread(&DirEntry, sizeof DirEntry, 1, dir) != NULL)
74         putEntry(DirEntry.dir_name, DirEntry.dir_addr);
75
76     exit(0);
77 }
78
79 putEntry(Name, Address)
80 char *Name, *Address;
81 {
82     char CName[30];
83     long LSM;
84
85

```

```

86     if (Name[0] == '\0')
87         return; /* Null entry */
88
89     if (Name[0] == '\0') /* change OS-9 string (high-bit)
90         to C format string */
91
92     if (Name[0] == '\0') /* make LSM useful */
93
94     printf("%s", CName); /* reformatted file name */
95
96     expansion(LSM); /* rest of the information */
97
98     return;
99 }
100
101 static struct files FD;
102
103 expansion(LSM) /* print everything interesting about a file */
104 long LSM;
105 {
106
107     if (fseek(disk, LSM*256, 0) == EOF)
108     {
109         fprintf(stderr, "Disk seek error %d\n", error(disk));
110         exit(1);
111     }
112     if (fread(&FD, sizeof FD, 1, disk) == NULL)
113     {
114         fprintf(stderr, "Disk read error %d\n", error(disk));
115         exit(1);
116     }
117
118     format_attr(FD.fd_attr);
119     printf(" %u", FD.fd_attr);
120     format_date(FD.fd_date, 5);
121     printf(" %d %d", FD.fd_link, FD.fd_size);
122     format_date(FD.fd_date, 3);
123     printf("\n");
124     return;
125 }
126
127
128
129 if (Name[0] == '\0') /* convert from OS-9 string to C string */
130 char *goodname, *badname;
131 {
132     register int i;
133
134     i = 0;
135     do
136     {
137         *goodname++ = *badname & 0x7f;
138     }
139     while (i < strlen(badname));
140
141     *goodname = '\0';
142     return;
143 }
144
145 format_attr(attr) /* print file attributes */
146 char attr;
147 {
148
149     if (attr & S_IFDIR) /* is it a directory? */
150         printf("/ ");
151     else
152         printf(" ");
153
154     if (attr & S_ISUID)
155         printf("u");
156
157     if (attr & S_ISGID)
158         printf("g");
159
160     if (attr & S_ISVTX)
161         printf("t");
162
163     if (attr & S_IREAD)
164         printf("r");
165

```





the program to continue. Redirection of the standard input with "<" and redirection of the standard output with ">" are not supported in Windrush C.

The following program does not compile, but generates "Compiler Storage Error", at least in the Windrush version of McCosh for FLEX:

```
main()
{
    int cl;
    while ((getchr(&cl, 0), cl) != '\n');
}
```

McCosh C limits the expanded version of a C source line to about 127 characters. This is usually a nuisance problem both when writing new programs and when attempting to port them from other systems. It is not difficult to fix a statement which violates the line length limitation, unless it contains an expanded string longer than 127 characters, as most lines may readily be broken into more than one line. It is just a nuisance, especially when it occurs often, such as in a program which uses a large number of macro calls. The following program cannot be compiled with any of the McCosh C compilers because of their line length limitation:

```
#include "ctype.h"
main()
{
    if (isprint('a') || isprint('b') || isprint('c'));
}
```

A member of a structure is designated by a construct of the following form:

structure-name . member-name

according to K & R. But K & R is silent on the situation in which member-name is not a member of structure-name, but is a member of another structure. Since this is almost always a coding error, most C compilers detect this situation. The McCosh C compilers will compile the following program, but the Intral C compilers will not:

```
#include "stdio.h"
struct x { char x1; } xx = { 'x' };
struct y { char y1; } yy = { 'y' };
main()
{
    printf("%c %c %c %c\n",
        xx.x1, xx.y1, yy.y1, yy.x1);
}
```

Although the allowance of crossed member-name references is harmless in this case, it can be disastrous in many cases, and most C programmers would prefer for the C compiler to flag crossed member names as syntax errors. If a given C compiler allows crossed member-name references, it should be documented as a warning to the C programmers using the compiler for development.

As noted in earlier columns, it is definitely not sufficient for a C compiler manual to state that it works "just like K & R". This is illustrated in

cases such as the crossed structure names and members, in the order of evaluation of function arguments, in the implementation of the various data types (number of bits, signed/unsigned char, etc.), and in other areas not specified in K & R. Unfortunately, many C compiler manuals (not only those on the 6809) are silent on many of these important implementation details.

## EFFICIENCY IN C PROGRAMS

The term "efficiency" has little meaning without reference to some basis of measurement. Most elementary programming texts discuss manners in which to make programs more efficient with respect to lines of code, run time, object code length, coding time, debugging time, etc.

C compilers have the generally well-deserved reputation for the production of machine code which would be judged fair to poor by experienced assembly language programmers. A few C compilers, such as Turbo C for the 8086, produce excellent machine code. The McCosh and Intral C compilers produce reasonably good machine code, even to the point of providing optimizers to attempt to clean up some of the most common and worst sequences.

Unfortunately, many implementations of C on microcomputers are based upon Ron Cain's original Small C compiler, which was intended to demonstrate that a subset of the C language could be implemented on a microcomputer, not to generate good code.

What can the C programmer do to attempt to make programs relatively smaller and faster, beyond the usual C code trimming and algorithm improvement? Often, very significant improvements in object code size may be realized by avoiding the use of the higher-level I/O functions such as printf, fprintf, sprintf, scanf, fscanf, and sscanf. Of course, avoidance of the use of these functions is sometimes difficult and time-consuming on the part of the programmer. However, the savings may be well worth the effort.

One problem with the higher-level I/O functions in many C compiler libraries is that they are so general in scope that they require the inclusion of most of the long, float, and double math libraries even if the program has no longs, floats, or doubles declared. For a reasonably short C program, these libraries may be several times longer than the object code length of the program itself. McCosh C compilers avoid some of these inefficiencies by requiring the user to request the inclusion of the long and float libraries explicitly for printf.

Unfortunately, printf is one of the most commonly used functions in the C library, so its exclusion in many programs may actually make them longer and more complex because of the C code required to replace each printf call. There is a simple solution which works in many cases. It is to code a version of printf which implements only the required subset of the capabilities of the general function, and avoids most of its overhead. Such a version of printf, fprintf, and sprintf appears below. It would require modification for use with many C compilers, as they pass arguments in reverse order, but provide an example of the direct inclusion of C library functions.

```
/*
**
** Formatted print functions printf, fprintf, sprintf
**
** They depend on the fact that some compilers push
```

```

**      function arguments in the order of occurrence.
**
**      Changes are required to use these functions with
**      C compilers which push arguments in reverse order.
**
**      These versions are non-standard since they require
**      the number of parameters as the last parameter.
**      However, this makes them much more portable.
**
*/

/*
**      Format and print to standard output
**
*/
printf (a, n)
int  *a, n;
{
    int  *fat;
    char  buf[140];

    fat = &a + n;
    _fat (fat, *fat, buf);
    return (fputs (buf, stdout));
}

/*
**      Format and print to an i/o stream.
**
*/
fprintf (a, n)
int  *a, n;
{
    int  *fat;
    char  buf[140];

    fat = &a + n;
    _fat (fat, *fat, buf);
    return (fputs (buf, fat[1]));
}

/*
**      Format into memory at the address given.
**
*/
sprintf (a, n)
int  *a, n;
{
    int  *fat;

    fat = &a + n;
    _fat (fat, *fat, fat[1]);
}

/*
**      Internal function for printf, fprintf, sprintf
**
*/
_fat (argptr, format, buf)
int  *argptr;          /* point to arguments */
char  *format,         /* format string      */
      *buf;            /* points to buffer
                        to place results */

```

```

char  c,               /* temp character */
      padchr,          /* character to use for
                        field padding */
      *tstr,           /* temporary pointer
                        to a string */
      tbuf[30],        /* temporary buffer */
      ljust,           /* flags to indicate
                        left justification, */
      zpad,            /* zero padding, and */
      tsfull;          /* temp string full */
int  i,                /* temp integer */
      padlen,          /* padding length */
      len,             /* length */
      prec,            /* field precision */
      fldwidth;        /* field width */

while (c = *format++)
{
    if (c == '%')
    {
        if (ljust == ((c = *format++) == '-'))
            c = *format++;
        if (zpad == (c == '0'))
        {
            padchr = '0';
            c = *format++;
        }
        else
            padchr = ' ';
        for (fldwidth = 0; isdigit (c); c = *format++)
            fldwidth = fldwidth * 10 + c - '0';
        if (c == '.')
        {
            prec = 0;
            while (isdigit (c = *format++))
                prec = prec * 10 + c - '0';
        }
        else
            prec = 10000;
        tstr = tbuf;
        tsfull = TRUE;
        switch (c)
        {
            case 'd':
                itoa (*--argptr, -10, tstr);
                break;
            case 'x':
                itoa (*--argptr, 16, tstr);
                break;
            case 'o':
                itoa (*--argptr, 8, tstr);
                break;
            case 'u':
                itoa (*--argptr, 10, tstr);
                break;
            case 'b':
                itoa (*--argptr, 2, tstr);
                break;
            case 'c':
                *buf++ = *--argptr;

```



```

        tsfull = FALSE;
        break;
    case 's':
        tstr = *--argptr;
        break;
    default:
        *buf++ = c;
        tsfull = FALSE;
        break;
}
if (tsfull)
{
    if ((len = strlen (tstr)) > prec)
        len = prec;
    if ((padlen = fldwidth - len) < 0)
        padlen = 0;
    if (ljust)
        buf = strncpy (buf, tstr, len);
    for (i = 1; i <= padlen; i++)
        *buf++ = padchr;
    if (ljust == 0)
        buf = strncpy (buf, tstr, len);
}
}
else
    *buf++ = c;
}
*buf = NULL;
}

```

#### C PROBLEM

There are many ways in which to code a C program which translates upper case letters in a file to lower case and drops all control characters except carriage return. The one presented below will accomplish the desired result, using the translation functions described in the previous article in this column. Because of the continued strings used in this program, it cannot be compiled with the McCosh C compilers.

```

#include "stdio.h"
main()
{
    char s[255], *p;
    int n;
    /* the following statement clears the
       internal translation table to '\0',
       then maps the designated characters
       to their own character codes. */
    _str2map(2, "\n !\"#$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:\
;=>?@[\"_`abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz{}`", "\0");
    /* the following statement changes the
       internal translation table to map
       upper case characters to lower case. */
    _str2map(1, "ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ",
            "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz");
    /* this reads each line from a text file
       and checks for end of file. */
    while (fgets(s, 255, stdin) != NULL)

```

```

{
    /* this translates the string just
       read, according to the internal
       translation table already built. */
    memtrans(s, s, "", "", n = strlen(s));
    /* this outputs the translated
       string, skipping unwanted nulls. */
    for (p = s; n; --n, ++p)
        if (!p) putchar(*p);
}
}

```

The next problem is to write a program which compresses multiple whitespace characters (space and tab) into single space characters in a text file. This may be done either directly or with the use of some of the string processing functions described in the last few columns.

#### EXAMPLE C PROGRAM

Following is this month's example C program; it sorts a file by a key. However, its primary point is not to illustrate a sort written in C, but to provide an extreme example of the necessity of the formatting of C programs.

Consider how much more readable and usable the program would have been if it were properly-formatted. Also, it will not compile directly with either Intral C nor McCosh C without several minor changes, since it was not written for either of them nor with portability in mind.

```

#include "stdio.h"
struct sort{struct sort*s_next;char s_buf[256];
};main(argc,argv){int argc;char**argv;(struct
sort*s,s2,*bs,*bs2,*as,*as2;struct sort
*last_sort=NULL,*first_sort;int count_sorts=0,
n_sort,i,j,wrang;int rand(),srand();while(argc
1){++argv,--argc;if(*argv!='-')fprintf(stderr,
"sort: %s: no file arguments\n",*argv);else
fprintf(stderr,"sort: %s: no options either",
*argv);}do{s=(struct sort*)calloc(1,sizeof(
struct sort));if(!last_sort)last_sort=s;
else first_sort=s;last_sort=s;+count_sorts;}
while(gets(s->s_buf));--count_sorts;srand(time(0
));do{for(i=0;i<count_sorts;++i){for(s=first_sort
,j=0;j<i;s=s->s_next,++j);/*Ideally we would loop
on rand() until the value fell into the range 0-(
count_sorts-1), but we will cheat*/n_sort=rand()
%count_sorts;for(s2=first_sort,j=0;j<n_sort;s2=
s2->s_next,++j);for(bs=first_sort;bs->s_next&&
bs->s_next!=s;bs=bs->s_next);if(bs->s_next==NULL
)bs=NULL;for(bs2=first_sort;bs2->s_next&&
bs2->s_next!=s2;bs2=bs2->s_next);if(bs2->s_next
==NULL)bs2=NULL;for(as=first_sort;as->s_next&&
as!=s->s_next;as=as->s_next);for(as2=first_sort;
as2->s_next&&as2!=s2->s_next;as2=as2->s_next);if
(s->s_next==s2){if(bs)bs->s_next=s2;else
first_sort=s2;s2->s_next=s;s->s_next=as2;}else
if(s2->s_next==s){if(bs2)bs2->s_next=s;else
first_sort=s;s->s_next=s2;s2->s_next=as;}else(
if(bs)bs->s_next=s2;else first_sort=s2;if(bs2)
bs2->s_next=s;else first_sort=s;s->s_next=as2;

```

```

s2->s_next=as; } wrong=0; for (s=first_sort;
s->s_next && s->s_next->s_next; s=s->s_next) if (
strcmp(s->s_buf, s->s_next->s_buf) > 0) wrong=1;
while (wrong); for (s=first_sort; s->s_next; s=
s->s_next) puts(s->s_buf); exit(-1);

```

## 68000 USER NOTES

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I quit! Not writing the column, of course. I'm learning a lot, and having fun doing so. But from now on, I do solemnly promise to hold back on those previews of what to expect in the following column. Something else always seems to come up, and my scheduled plans are constantly shot to pieces.

Anyway, this month I will not be reviewing version 1.0 of OS-9. This column is going out a little early, as I get ready to go to Microware's OS-9's 1nar, so the new release isn't here yet. Further, my impassioned call for program standards will probably have to wait for some indeterminate time in the future (I'd say next month, but my solemn promises generally hold for a minimum of two paragraphs).

Egg on My Face Dept.

What will I use this month's column for, then? Retractions and corrections, of course! Nothing serious, but a few points from last month turned out to be incorrect.

Last month, Kirk Anderson had a question concerning the use, or lack of use, of the '#' memory allocation qualifier. Under OS-9/68K, specifying a large buffer for a utility like copy is done with the command 'copy -b=20K ...' instead of 'copy #20K ...', as you would do with OS-9/6809. I assumed that the buffer is allocated with an sbrk() call, which contiguously expands a program's data allocation with an F\$Mem OS-9 service request, and had some reservations about such a practice, especially in a Level 1 system.

While talking to people at Microware, I was told that an sbrk() call is not used. Instead, there is a new C system call, ebrk(), which is used to request more data memory. Unlike sbrk(), the ebrk() call does not attempt to allocate memory contiguous with existing data memory. Instead, it uses a call by the name of F\$SRqMem (System Request Memory), which allocates memory without regard to its location. The F\$SRqMem call is not available to user programs under OS-9/6809, where it is a reserved system service request, but under OS-9/68K it is a user request.

This difference between the 6809 and 68000 versions of OS-9 is not particularly important to most programs. It does mean, though, that programs which build large tables in memory, like compilers or assemblers, will not have the problems under Level 1 OS-9/68K that they would under Level 1 OS-9/6809.

Last month, I also mentioned a sorting program that I was writing. The program should have taken most of its time reading and writing the disk, so the 6809 and 68008 versions should have run equally fast. Instead, the 6809 version took 27 minutes, with the 68008 version taking 10 and a half.

Well, obviously the 68008 can't be that much better. Instead, the times reflect another difference in memory allocation between OS-9/6809 and OS-9/68K. My program uses the buffered I/O routines in the C library, which use buffers to quickly save file input and output, then transmit the results in 256 byte chunks to OS-9. This runs much faster than sending data character by character through OS-9, with I\$Read and I\$Write calls, since there is significant overhead with each actual call to the OS-9 kernel.

Under OS-9/6809, these buffers are allocated using lbrk() calls, which use the memory in the original data area. If enough memory is not immediately available, then

the associated file is set unbuffered, so the OS-9 kernel is called for each character. This is what happened with my sort program, which has about 8 files open at once, and needs 2K of memory just for the I/O buffers. The C compiler includes a command line option, -m, to increase the initial memory allocation, but if it is not used, then there is only enough memory for at most 3 files. Thus, most of the files in the program ended up being unbuffered. The long running time for the 6809 version was entirely due to the constant overhead calling OS-9.

Under OS-9/68K, the I/O buffers are allocated using ebrk() calls, so there is no problem with not setting the -m option when compiling. After properly compiling the 6809 version, with an option of -m=10 to allocate space for up to 10 additional buffers, the program ran in about the same time on both processors.

Why the 68000?

There is something I probably should have talked about some time ago, to wit: what is there to recommend the 68000? There are actually two questions here. First, in what ways are the newer 16 bit microprocessors better (or worse) than the 8 bit machines, and second, how does the 68000 compare with other 16 bit processors?

16 bit processors offer two main advantages over the 8 bit processors: an increased address space and a wider data bus. The address space of a processor is the amount of memory which can be directly addressed, without first going into any software bank switching or the like. This is determined by the number of address bits on the chip. 8 bit processors generally have 16 address bits, which allow them to directly address 64K bytes of memory. 16 bit processors vary, but most have at least 20 address bits, for a 1 megabyte (1M) address space, like the 68008, or 24 bits like the 68000, for 16M of directly addressable memory.

For most of the time since microcomputers made their appearance, 64K of memory has been enough. Increasingly, though, programs have been appearing which either require, or run much better, in a large amount of RAM. It is possible to run such programs in an 8 bit machine, by using such memory techniques as page mapping, like that used in OS-9/6809, or by writing a program to run in overlays and keep data on the disk. However, this complicates the program, and distracts the programmer from the program's true function. Often, the program simply doesn't get written in its most powerful form, if at all. By removing this 64K limitation, 16 bit micros make it simpler to write these large programs.

In addition to a larger address space, 16 bit chips tend to be more efficient at processing data. They do this by being able to perform their various machine language operations on larger bit-groupings of data. On an 8 bit micro, arithmetic is generally performed on byte, or 8 bit, data, while 2 bytes, or 16 bits, is the basic data size for the larger processors. Being able to handle more data per instruction helps a program to run faster, since fewer multi-byte operations need to be performed.

Now it is fairly obvious that 8 bit micros won't disappear overnight. For most jobs they are more than powerful enough. Furthermore, 16 bit microcomputers are likely to remain more expensive than 8 bit designs for some time, with their larger memory requirements and newer chip sets. Because of this, for instance, the 68000 is unlikely to eclipse the 6809 to the same extent as the 6809 has done so to the 6800. What is likely to happen, though, is that new programs will be developed for the 16 bit chips which will simply be to difficult or large to transport back to the older computers. If you want the speed and can handle the added expense, then a 16 bit microcomputer may be worth it.

Which particular 16 bit (or 32 bit) chip is likely to dominate the market? Unfortunately, the decision will depend more on which chip IBM or AT&T choose to put in their machines than on which chip is more powerful. Still, I can always hope for the best, and explain why I prefer the 68000 (surprise, surprise).

My exposure to 16 bit micros has been mostly limited to the 8086 and the 68000. Thus, I can't really say much about the 28000 or any of the others, but these seem to be minor players in the game, anyway. The 8086 is obviously the front runner, with its use in all of the IBM PCs and PC clones, but this is due more to its earlier appearance on the scene. The 68000 clearly has a more powerful design.

First, the 68000 might better be described as a 32 bit micro. There are two measures of bit size in a processor. The normal one is the width of the external data bus, which is the number of bits which can be written or read at a time. This is 16 bits for a 68000 or 8086, 8 bits for a 68008, 8088, or 6809. The other bit size, which may be more important, is the width of the internal data bus, reflected in the size of the general registers used for most arithmetic in the machine. For the 68000 and the 68008, this is 32 bits, while it is only 16 bits for the 8086 and 8088. As I said above, the ability to handle larger chunks of data, which depends on the internal data bus width, is a strong factor in the speed and performance of a processor.

Second, the 8086, in attempting to stay upwardly compatible with the 8080, uses a segmented addressing scheme for addressing over 64K of memory. In the 8086, addressing memory requires two different values. One value, held in what is known as a segment register, points to a base address which is anywhere in a 1 megabyte range. The segment register is 16 bits long, and points to the address formed by appending 4 bits of zero to the end of the value in the register, creating a 20 bit memory pointer. The second value used in addressing is the offset, which might come from an index register or be part of the instruction (like extended addressing in the 6809). To perform the actual memory access, the shifted segment register value is added to offset, giving a final 20 bit address.

This method has some advantages. For instance, the segment register is generally loaded only once per program or once per subroutine, so addresses "on that point on are only 16 bits long, the size of the offset, reducing the size of the object code. The disadvantages are quite serious, though. If you look closely, the segmented addressing is just another version of bank switching, albeit somewhat more manageable than in the 8 bit/64K situation. As a result, it is impossible to address more than 64K at a time without manipulating the segment registers. There are separate segment registers for data, stack, and program access, but there is still that 64K problem within a single segment.

How is the 68000 different? Motorola chose the simplest method of memory addressing, by making all addresses 32 bits long. There is no memory segmentation required, since a single instruction can directly access any byte in a 4 gigabyte (that's 4 billion bytes!) range. Obviously, programs for the 68000 will often be larger than equivalent programs for the 8086, since larger addresses (and larger instructions in general, by the way) have to be kept in a program. But what must be remembered is the fact that, from now on, memory is cheap, especially when compared to programmer time. A program might now be 40K long instead of 32K, but if there is 256K of memory in a computer, so what?

The 68000 is not entirely without blemishes. While 32 bit addresses are used, constant offset indexing is still limited to a 16 bit range, which is not significantly different from the segmented addressing of the 8086. This is less troublesome here, since 64K is generally sufficient for named variables, which are the types which will be addressed with constant indexes from a base register. Large data tables using pointers to link table elements are not affected, and can be as large as required, up to the bounds of available memory. Also, I have heard that the next processor in the 68xxx family, the true 32 bit 68020, will allow full 32 bit offsets for indexing.

Vacation!

That's enough for now. I'm off to the OS-9 seminar now, with a nice lazy (and well deserved) vacation to follow that. Next month I should (not will - should) be answering some mail that has come in, as well as telling you what transpired at the seminar. Bye.

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## SUPPORT YOUR ADVERTISERS

# SINGLE BOARD COMPUTERS-6809

## SINGLE BOARD COMPUTERS - 6809

Recently we received for review 3 different single board 6809 computers. All three are 64K systems, with 56K standard per FLEX™ convention. All three boards run FLEX, two have also licensed OS-9™ level one. The two FLEX systems recommend that you purchase FLEX from your favorite source and use their modified drivers. Essentially this requires most any FLEX.COR and append the drivers to make a bootable FLEX system. Some consideration should be given to certain SWTPC FLEX versions, however, all can be made to work. Specifics will be covered in the review of each system.

The three systems we will look at are:

1. The PT-69™  
Peripheral Technology  
3760 Lower Roswell Rd.  
Marietta, GA 30067  
404/973-0042
2. ST-2900 System™  
Sardis Technologies  
2261 E. 11th Ave.  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5N 1Z7
3. The 6809 "Uniboard"™  
Digital Research Computers (of Texas)  
P.O. Box 461565  
Garland, TX 75046  
214/271-3538

Notice should be taken that we will review each system in the order of A-Z. Why? Well they all have certain strengths and weaknesses, as we see it. Also we ended up having no particular favorite, as each has certain merits not available to the other two. All three are advertised in 68 Micro Journal and are running either in our offices or our lab (meaning they have been tested and accepted by our standards). All three perform well. Any one of the three when combined with disks and a CRT or keyboard and monitor (depending on the system) make an excellent, general purpose or specialized 6809 64K computer. The boards alone make great and very economical 6809 controllers or stand-alone systems. I see an upsurge in 6809 activity due to the economy and availability of these systems running all the popular 6809 disk systems and software!

## THE PT-69

The PT-69 is completely mounted on a single glass epoxy board, 6 1/2 X 5 1/2 inches in size. The board is solder-masked and double sided plated through. Also the system can be obtained complete with or without cabinet, power supply and 5 inch disk drives, 40 or 80 track. However, we will only review the board without power supply or disk drives. We added our own drives and mounted the board in a Heath H-19 CRT terminal that we had in our lab. Also the Sardis system is mounted in a Heath H-19 CRT terminal. Both these systems have half size Qume 5 inch DD OS disk drives 40 track, installed in the CRT terminal also. Everything in one box.

I have long seen the need and attempted to get some of our present 6809 computer manufacturers to make a similar system. A very accurate survey some two years ago indicated that many of you wanted such a system. Only SWTPC and WaveMate have done so.

WaveMate blew it by making the hardware and software dependent on a double density disk directory for FLEX. All normal FLEX systems use single density directories, for both single or double density format. Had they listened I sincerely believe that they would have had a winner, but now only SWTPC advertises a system in a desktop configuration (X-12+), and I understand it is doing quite well. However, by utilizing a CRT terminal similar to the Heath H-19, which has provisions for disks also, the entire system can be in one package. And that is the wave of the future, something we should have done years ago. Now with two of these, desktop complete systems are possible. With the other the size of the board is slightly too large, due to features not available on the other two. Remember, I said advantages and disadvantages.



Now, as to the Heath H-19, it is no longer in production, but many are advertised as used and at very good prices, so it should not be too difficult finding a low price used one or a similar type. Should any of you out there have a used Heath H-19 for sale, please let me know as I am certain I will be receiving many inquiries for availability of used ones.

On to the PT-69. Basic overview:

56K RAM useable  
4K EPROM - 4K I/O  
2 8 bit parallel ports (6850)  
2 RS232 serial ports (6821)  
1 Mhz 6809E processor  
Double density, double sided 40/80 5" disk drives  
Available with optional CRT, cabinet, power supplies and drives  
Time of day and calendar clock (146818)

Although a kit is available, we received the review system built and tested. It required about 4 leisure hours to install the system in the CRT terminal, wire the serial port and parallel port to the DB25 connectors on the back of the CRT terminal, wire the communications port to the terminal, drill a couple of holes on the support inner frame of the terminal to mount the board, rob power from the terminal and go. Also a small power supply for the disk drives should be built or purchased and installed.

Because our review system came prebuilt and tested it came up online without a hitch, first time. We have a second one that we use for maintaining a mailing list and it has functioned flawlessly for over six months, 8 hours a day.

### Operating Systems

The system runs both FLEX and OS-9 level one. And this brings up an interesting point. The disk controllers sold by Peripheral Technology function as SWTPC DC2-4 disk controllers. Therefore, the OS-9 configuration for the PT-69 system should also run on any SWTPC system using SWTPC DC2-4 5" disk controllers. Now for the many of you who have expressed a desire to run OS-9 on your SWTPC I would suggest you contact Peripheral Technology for the particulars.

The FLEX version uses a monitor that has entry points that are the same as the SBUG monitor from SWTPC, less any 'DAT' functions (remember it is only a 64K system and needs no OAT). I understand an expansion model will be available in the near future and will allow for extended addressing. Then a DAT type monitor such as the SWTPC will run in the system. The documentation indicates that FLEX version 9.1 from TSC will run as well as most SWTPC FLEX versions. Almost any FLEX.COR should work, except some SWTPC versions that have relocated some parts of the .COR. Also available is disk drivers to make the TSC version run DD DS.

### The Monitor PT-MON

The monitor has entry points that coincide with those defined by SWTPC when the first 6809 CPUs became available. By sticking to these standard entry points most all software runs unaltered. For many this is not only convenient but a MUST. Patching software that talks directly with I/O devices or monitor calls that are either different devices or different entry points can make for some long debugging sessions! We have not had to alter or change one piece of software running on our day-to-day PT-69 office system.

#### Monitor Commands:

Alter Accumulator-A  
Alter Accumulator-B  
Alter Conditional Code Register  
Alter DP  
Alter U Stack Pointer  
Alter X Register  
Alter Y Register  
Set Breakpoint  
Dump Memory (both hex and ASCII)  
Execute Program  
Find Data (two hex bytes)  
Continue Execution of Program  
Jump to Subroutine  
Initialize Memory (any char 0-F)  
Load Tape (SI format)  
Memory Examine and Change  
Punch Tape (SI format)  
Test Memory  
Register Dump  
Boot Floppy Disk  
Remove Breakpoint

The Monitor occupies memory from \$f800 \$ffff. The stack pointer is placed at \$c0ff except when using a version of SWTPC FLEX 2.8:3 or higher, else it is at \$dfc0. Monitor routines are entered by indirect jump calls. The more significant ones are:

F800 - Monitor - Re-enter monitor  
F802 - Nextcmd - Re-enter monitor and prompt  
F804 - Inch - Get Input char from terminal  
no echo  
F806 - Inche - Get Input char from terminal  
with echo of char  
F808 - Incheck - Check for Input char  
F80A - Outch - Output char to terminal  
F80C - Pdata - Print data string  
F80E - Pcrif - Print carriage return and linefeed  
F810 - Pstrng - Call Pcrif then Pdata  
F812 - RTS - Null, included for S-Bug-E compatibility  
F814 - Out2hs - Print two hex char  
F816 - Out4hs - Print four hex char  
F818 - In2hex - Input two hex char  
F81A - In4hex - Input four hex char  
F81C - Out4hex - Print four hex char in 'X' reg  
DFC2 - SWI3  
DFC4 - SWI2  
DFC6 - FIR0  
DFC8 - IRQ  
DFCA - SWI

### Memory Map

0000 - 0FFF RAM  
E001 - E002 ACIA  
E004 - E005 ACIA  
E010 - E013 PIA  
E014 - Drive select register  
E018 - E01B WD2797 (disk controller)  
E050 - E05E RTC (clock)  
F800 - FFFF Monitor (2716)  
F000 - FFFF Monitor (2732)

### Conclusion

No provision are made for 8 inch disk drives, however, the disk controller provides for 8" drives as well. A good hardware type should experience little trouble in adding 8" capability. How about an article someone who has or will do it! But, with 80 track drives, why?

Eleven plugs and jumpers are provided to select baud rates for both ACIAs, terminal, printer/modem, floppy drive cable, PIA, power, printer CTS enable, 2716/2732 select, reset, disk controller test input and real time clock battery connector. We use NI-Cads and the date and time is always there at power-on.

Baud rates hard wired are 300, 1200, 9600 and 19200 for both ACIAs. Other rates can be jumper wired in.

The documentation is complete with schematic drawings, parts placement, parts list, cable connection charts and complete manufacturers spec sheets and booklets on each of the major components, 6809, 6821, 6850, 6883, 146818 and WD279X disk controller.

The nice part about this system is that you can run practically all FLEX and OS-9 level one software without modification. It is simple to install and get running. The I/O devices are those normally looked for by most software and are at normal memory addresses. We could find nothing to complain about except that the documentation is certainly not 'Heath' quality. But then neither is the other two, so I guess that runs even. It is sufficient to get the job done, but it will be simpler for those who have some experience with building kits or boards and wiring cables and harnesses. Anyone should be able to do it by detail study of the total package of documentation.

The price of the board - wired and tested is:

\$299.95 less power supply and cabinet  
(and of course disk drives)

The system with power supply and cabinet is:

\$399.95

The complete system with power supply and cabinet, two 5" disk drives DD, DS 40 track is:

\$999.95

With the cost of the PT-69 board, a used CRT terminal and two 5" disk drives DD DS, the total system cost should be \$1500 or less, and that is the advantage of the new wave of single board 6809 computers, cost, compactness and semi-portability (with the Heath terminal the total weight is about 45 pounds).

For those applications demanding additional I/O, hard-disk and other peripheral interfacing then one of the larger S50 Bus system will be required, but for many this is the way to go. And it is good for the industry, for experience has shown that satisfied small system owners eventually graduate to larger and more complex 6809 systems rather than go off to the 'other side' (who wants to learn new languages, buy new software and essentially start all over?)

See Peripheral Technology Advertising for additional specs and ordering information.

Next month a review of the ST-2900 System 6809 single board computer from Sardis Technologies.

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## COBOL

### COBOL

About the only language that I had never gotten to work with (until last week) was Cobol. About a week ago, "Crunch Cobol" from Compuserve arrived for me to look at and perhaps review. Well, after a week I have some initial impressions of both the language and the particular implementation, but a week is certainly not enough time for anyone to have become proficient in any language, so I really don't feel qualified to do a thorough review of the Compuserve package. However, I suspect that Cobol might be new to most of you readers as well as to me, so some first impressions of the language interspersed with some comments on this particular implementation might be of some interest.

As do most of the compiler packages, this one arrived with a manual that clearly indicates that it does not contain a complete tutorial on the language. I went to the local bookstore and found a larger than expected selection of books on Cobol. One of them was wrapped in plastic (I think to keep some additional sheets provided with it from becoming lost) so I couldn't look at it. Now I'm not ready to spend \$20 on a book if I can't at least leaf through it and see what it contains. I settled for a book called Structured Cobol, A Self Teaching Guide, by Ruth Ashley. Nearby was another book by the same author that seemed a little older.

To quote from the introduction, "Structured COBOL deals with the COBOL language -- the same COBOL that programmers and computers have been using for years. 'Structured' here refers to programming, and, as such, is independent of the COBOL language. Structure is an approach to programming in which we are concerned with clarity as well as effectiveness."

My very first impression was that COBOL's author(s) searched hard to find keywords that are as long as possible for each function. Print and Write are commonly used in other languages as keywords to cause output of what follows. These are both 5 letter words, too short for COBOL, which uses DISPLAY for the same purpose. An example program had the line: "DISPLAY \*\*\*\* END OF FILE \*\*\*\*" UPON CONSOLE. The UPON CONSOLE qualifier keeps information such as this on the CRT terminal even if the other outputs are redirected, as to a printer. In an effort to keep the programmer thinking in terms of writing programs in "plain English", COBOL doesn't have "procedures" but rather uses the term "paragraphs". Statements are called "sentences" and they end with a period (of course).

Unfortunately, the book is too much "self teaching" oriented, following the question and answer approach all the way through. The example programs are the most useful information contained. Though the author made an attempt to organize the information roughly by subject it is very difficult to find some of the information. A paragraph, being analogous to a procedure in Pascal or PL/ or a function in "C" ought to be a rather important topic, right? The word Paragraph doesn't appear in the alphabetical index at the end of the book, and I had some trouble with the syntax of my first attempted paragraph, which turned out to be more complex than any in the examples in the book.

I've recently decided that I would compare the file handling in several languages, and so I wrote a short program that reads a text file, converts all upper case characters in it to lower, and writes the result back to another file. I thought I would try it in COBOL. First attempt caused 31 errors to be reported, but I'm getting ahead of the story... More on that later.

I found, after a few evenings of reading the book and the instruction manual that came with the Crunch Cobol, that I had some definite impressions of COBOL as a language, but not yet a very good idea of how good the Compuserve implementation is. First the impressions, then a discussion of the implementation. I found that COBOL is VERY good in the area of defining a RECORD. Each field is described character by character, indicating which positions contain alphabetic characters and which contain numeric. (I'm speaking initially of how a record in a FILE is described in the header sections of the program). The formatting capabilities for the generation of output strings for reports is considerably more comprehensive. These capabilities must be what inspired the extensions of BASIC in the area of the "PRINT USING" facilities. You can specify separators for numbers, such as commas or slashes (for date information). You can have leading zeros suppressed or present. You can fill the leading zero columns with " ", or blanks. You can have a dollar sign in a fixed column, or floating to put itself before the first non zero digit in the result.

Formatting is done by means of a PICTURE. For example a record containing name and phone number information might look like this

```
01 CUSTOMER-RECORD
02 C-FIRST-NAME      PIC X(12).
02 C-LAST-NAME       PIC X(15).
02 C-PHONE-NU        PIC 9(10)..
```

In the "PIC" area, X indicates alphanumeric (character) information, and 9 indicates numeric. In the present case, the phone number could just as well be defined as a field of characters. In the output formatting section of the program, several other symbols are used to insert commas, place the decimal point, etc. In the present program, I wanted to input a line of text and modify it.

I found the Compuserve implementation to be rather complete. The manual describing the use of the compiler is clearly written, and I had no problem running it. To my horror, my first attempt at the program resulted in a total error count of 31. Since the whole program was about 40 lines long, it looked pretty bleak. I soon found out that the source program format may not be quite as "free form" as with some of the other languages, and that I hadn't indented the statements enough from the Label and Heading column. Indenting one column further brought the error count down to ten. Another pass straightening out some syntax (missing period at end of some statements and headers) brought the error down to just one. It seems that no arithmetic is permitted on a character. You may only perform arithmetic on numeric fields.

I was temporarily set back trying to figure out how to convert "A" to "a" without simply adding or OR'ing in \$20 to the value. The test IF CHAR NOT < "A" AND CHAR NOT > "Z" worked fine to sort out the characters to be modified, but the ADD \$20 TO CHAR resulted in an error. (Note that comparisons in Cobol may use only one symbol and optionally the word NOT. >= translates to NOT <, and <= translates to NOT >.) Adding decimal 32 didn't work either. There seem to be no "conversion" functions to convert a character to a number so arithmetic can be done on it, either. The only other possibility I could imagine was a section of code containing 26 IF statements:

```
IF CHAR = "A" MOVE "a" TO CHAR.
```

Repeat this all the way through "Z", and you have something that should work. Wrong again. I found that when I tried to set up the IN-FILE record to be one character and read one character at a time to process it, I only got the first character of each line. Apparently COBOL is like BASIC in that respect. It reads to the first carriage return and puts what will fit, into the defined record, throwing everything else away. What to do now?

```
01 IN-LINE
02 IN-CHAR      PIC 9(80).
```

I declared the record to be 80 characters. In the working data section I declared a structure to which to

move the line read from the input file:

```
01 W-LINE
02 CHAR OCCURS 80 TIMES.
```

That peculiar syntax sets up an array of characters of dimension 80. Now I could READ a record from INPUT-FILE, and MOVE IN-LINE TO W-LINE. Then I could index through W-LINE as an array of characters, modify the characters and return them to W-LINE, then move W-LINE to OUT-LINE and write it to the new file. Simple? Yes but there is still a problem. COBOL is obstinate about having records of fixed length, even in a sequential file. I had to fill IN-LINE with blanks by moving a blank line into it, read the record, move it to W-LINE, modify it, move it to OUT-LINE and write it to the output file. A quick LIST of the output file after running the program, which by this time had no compile errors, indicated that it worked fine. I then discovered that the output file was three or four times as big as the input file. A quick dump of the disk file showed that each output record was 80 characters long, and that after the text ran out, the record was padded with nulls (\$00) with a CR (\$0D) at the end of the record to serve as a separator.

Further, the program, because of the average of 13 IF comparisons for each character, took about three minutes to run on the source listing of itself. I split up the decisions with some tests to get the comparisons at least to the proper quarter of the alphabet with a couple of preliminary IF's (see the listing here), and the whole thing stopped working. It turned out that adding labels within my SUBSTITUTION paragraph, fooled the compiler into putting the return just before the first embedded label. I had to declare "SUBSTITUTION SECTION." In order for it to accept the several labels and consider the paragraph as one. The Compuserp manual indicates that I probably should have been able to use "PARAGRAPH-SUBSTITUTION." as a header to identify the paragraph, but that didn't work, though no compiler error was flagged. As I indicated earlier, the book doesn't even contain a reference to the word paragraph in its index. None of the example programs in either the book or the manual included multiple labels, so I am in the dark as to why what would seem like the more logical identifier didn't work at all.

It seems that the fixed record length even for sequential files, made the program work very inefficiently. I tried cutting off the character match process by stopping at the CR in the input line, but it appears that the CR is not included in the input line, nor transferred to W-LINE. I also found that if I didn't "blank out" IN-LINE each time, the output line written to the output file contains the tail end of the previous lines longer than the current one. I did find that running the output file through any of the editors, stripped it of all the extra nulls and the output file from the edit, was the same length as the input file.

At any rate, with the 26 IF statements broken down into groups of 6 and 7, the execution time went from three minutes to just under two minutes.

At this point, I'm willing to say that COBOL is not intended for use in "character manipulation" applications. It did the job, though rather inefficiently. The fact that all records must be the same length for sequential files, removes the usual compactness advantage of using sequential files, and any data file might as well be the random access type, since there is no accompanying less efficient use of disk space to offset the quicker access and the capability of adding to or changing records in a random access file. This limitation, also makes COBOL unsuitable for use in manipulating text files, as for text editing applications.

As a point for comparison, I ran the Whimsical compiler version of the "LOWER" program on the COBOL source file, and it ran in ten seconds. I was impressed with the small amount of code generated by the compiler. However, I should point out that this is a "P-code" implementation that runs with a "runtime package".

Obviously, since I am no expert on COBOL, I am not in a position to make any absolute judgements on this package. I will say that it appears to be a fairly complete implementation of ANSI COBOL. The manual doesn't indicate the precision of the arithmetic package, which I obviously didn't check with the program here. I found the error messages to be of little help. When the error line was an ADD statement, the error message was "Syntax error in ADD statement". Actually the error message is a code, and you must look up the code in the manual. The next error was in a MOVE

statement, and the error message was "Syntax error in MOVE statement". A simple "SYNTAX ERROR" would have done, since I could see what type of statement the error line contained. The error line is output with a caret pointing at the approximate location of the error in the line.

As with most modern compilers, my few errors produced a large number of error messages and the correction of any one error significantly reduced the count, so that I quickly had an error free compile. Compile time for the final program on a 2 Mhz system (all times given here are for that system) was around two minutes. The compiler has the usual set of options, not unlike the TSC Assembler that most of us have. You can create an output file or not, create a listing to the terminal or not, list to the printer, etc. There are some facilities for including TRACE information in the compiled output, and for including optional debug statements in the output code.

One nice feature of the compiler is an extension that allows the program to "parse" the FLEX command line for filenames that follow the command that invokes the program. Up to 5 filenames may be included on the command line and associated with the logical filenames used within the program. The syntax: SELECT INPUT-FILE ASSIGN TO FILE-1, associates the logical filename INPUT-FILE with the first file on the command line, etc. Alternately, a literal filename may be included as in SELECT INPUT-FILE ASSIGN TO "TESTFILE.TXT", and it will cause TESTFILE.TXT from the Working drive to be associated with INPUT-FILE. The name of a variable that contains a string that is the name of a file may also be used.

I think, after seeing the capabilities of this language in the area of defining records, and formatting outputs, I would use it to write specific data handling software. I can see that a lot of the thinking that went into the currently available database management software came from COBOL. Since the language was designed to handle data processing needs, it really ought to shine in such applications.

It is obviously seriously lacking in the capabilities that would make it a good language in which to write systems software or major number crunching programs. One notable lack in COBOL is the availability of "local variables", and right along with that, the capability of passing parameters to "paragraphs". All variables are GLOBAL, and the various paragraphs do their thing by modifying the global variables. In spite of this limitation, the language has enough statement types to allow prettily well structured programs.

Though I have used GO TO in the example program, it would not be hard to eliminate it in most instances. Some of the so-called GOTO-less languages ("C" for example) have eliminated the GOTO by calling it something else (sometimes the keyword BREAK is used). Though I realize that BREAK is limited to causing exit to the statement after the loop in which it is used, it really is a GOTO. I've used GO TO just as I would use BREAK, in the SUBSTITUTION paragraph, allowing me to skip the remainder of the code after I have performed the necessary action.

Well, though this turned out to be a discussion and "sort of a review", it is getting very long, and I am going to have to quit here. If there are any COBOL programmers out there, I suppose one or more of them will see that I have missed an easy way to convert upper to lower case, please let me know how dumb I am. I'll print any comments you might have. If anyone out there knows of a GOOD book on Cobol, please let me know about it also.

Reviewed by: Ron Anderson

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# PRODUCT REVIEW

## DATASYSTEMS

### 68 COMPUTER

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\*\* NOW DIGITAL RESEARCH COMPUTERS (of Texas) \*\*

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#### INTRODUCTION

Like many other hobbyists, my first experience with computers was with the Motorola D2 kit. I spent a lot of time hand coding that thing. At one time I could write programs without looking at a manual--I had the entire 6800 code memorized! I gradually built up the D2 kit to include a video monitor, 32K ram and a real keyboard--no more hex keypad. The next big step was a TRS-80C. Finally, I acquired a disk system and FLEX. Actually the TRS-80C was my son's Christmas present. To settle a lot of family squabbles, and because I was tired of the TRS-80C screen and keyboard, I started looking for a "real" 6809 computer. That's when I ran across DATA SYSTEMS' ad in this Journal. By this time, I had parlayed my 6800 experience into building several dedicated computers for rocket payload control; consequently, I felt this was a project I could handle. My twenty or so years as a ham and as an engineer added to my confidence. So, off went my order.

The boards I ordered from DATA SYSTEMS 68 were:

- a) CPU-6809 (the processor board)
- b) 6845 Video Display
- c) DRAM-64K Ram board
- d) FDC-50 Floppy Disk Controller
- e) MULTI-I/O Board
- f) DUAL SERIAL INTERFACE Card, and
- g) THE MOTHER BOARD

What arrived was a beautiful set of boards and about 3/4" of manuals. The boards are glass epoxy with double sided copper and solder masking. Most of the boards are 1/16" thick except for the mother board which is 3/32" thick. A separate manual is provided for each board, each including a short section on theory, a brief construction guide (this ain't no Heathkit), a schematic, parts list, assembly drawing and, where necessary, some software.

DS68 assumes that you have access to another FLEX system with an EPROM burner and a suitable monitor such as SWTP's SBUG E. Also you'll need a General Version of FLEX. Additionally, you will require a power supply, keyboard, video monitor, enclosure, disk drives and probably a printer. All DS68 is selling you is blank boards.

Assembling the boards was easy (once I gathered up all the parts), getting to work was fun, and building the enclosure was a pain in the neck. I really have a problem punching oblong connector holes. After about six months of effort, I have a computer that is as contemporary as any and didn't cost a fortune. It was a lot of work but that's what a hobby is all about.

Following is a board by board description of the DS68 computer and my impressions.

#### CPU BOARD

The CPU 6809 board includes the 6809 processor, its clock, a baud rate generator (with a separate 1.84 mhz crystal), and space for two banks of 4k PROM (or RAM). This on-board memory consists of two 2716 type sockets at \$F000 and two at \$F800 (dip switch selectable). A 4 mhz crystal is used to provide a 1 mhz E clock. The data buss drivers are 8835 devices compatible with the inverted nature of the SS-50 buss.

I installed my monitor at \$F800 (more about that later) and a 6116 CMOS RAM at \$F000 for some out-of-the-way RAM. Provisions are made to use the baud rate outputs (to the buss) as memory bank switching rather than baud clocks. Since the mother board also includes a baud-rate generator using the same circuit, I elected not to use the one on the CPU board, and as I had only one RAM board, I didn't implement the bank switching either. The board includes provisions for latching an external BREQ and HALT although there is no reason to do so on the board set I have.

Once I figured out what not to install, this board went together with no problems and worked the first time I turned it on.

#### VIDEO DISPLAY

The video display board provides a memory-mapped video terminal for the SS-50 buss using the 6845 video controller. Output is both composite video to directly drive a monitor and separate video and sync at TTL levels. A 12.576 mhz crystal (where do you get one of those?) supplies the dot clock. Included is a one-page memory (4-2116s) and space for a character set in a 2716 PROM. No provisions are made for inverted video or graphics nor does the board include a PIA for a keyboard interface. The design does not use any of the techniques to eliminate "speckles" on the screen when both the CPU and the 6845 access the video memory.

The major problem I had with this board was getting the crystal to oscillate. I found that by replacing the 470 ohm resistor with a 1K and adding another 1K between pins 3 and 4 of the inverter, I could get reliable crystal starting. The circuit is then the same as Motorola uses on one of their video boards. There are already unmarked pads for the second 1K. Further, I found that there was a race condition with the 7404 inverter which was solved by replacing it with a 74LS04. The assembly documentation supplied with the board is mostly good except neither the schematic nor the assembly drawing had reference designators for the ICs (U-numbers). This sometimes made it difficult to find the right part without tracing the circuit on the board. The PC board itself did have references silkscreened on, but they didn't relate to anything.

Software supplied by DS68 for the video board include video drivers and a character set to be burned into a EPROM. The drivers were apparently copied from Motorola's CBUG and are intended to overlay tape routines in the SWTP SBUG. I used neither the driver nor the character set, electing to write my own.

Most video boards end up requiring dot clocks that mean, for the one-off builder, ordering a special crystal. Since I already had a 15 mhz crystal, I decided to try to use it. After struggling with the 6845 data sheet, I finally wrote a BASIC program to help set up the CRT. I ended up with some non-standard horizontal and vertical frequencies (15,756 Hz and 50.02 Hz), but

they work well on my medium quality monitor. More on all the software later.

#### 64K RAM

The 64K RAM board uses 4116 dynamic RAMS in the memory and 3242 and 3480 as controllers (both Motorola parts). Two delay lines are used to set up the various clocking patterns. The board is addressable in 4K blocks, allowing one to steer around the I/O and ROM above \$E000. Also, it is possible to bank-switch for systems larger than 64K.

This board gave me the most trouble through no fault of DS68. I used RAM chips salvaged from many conversions of TRS-80Cs to 64K. This was a big mistake and held up the completion of the computer longer than I'll admit. Once I installed new RAM chips the board worked perfectly. BUY GOOD RAMS! When the RAM board is ordered, the delay lines should be ordered at the same time because they are special and not available anywhere else (that I could find).

#### DISK CONTROLLER FDC-50

The disk controller board is the most complicated of the boards available from DS68 and well it should be--it has a tough task to do. The design of the board closely follows Western Digital practice as described in their data sheets and app notes. A WD 1791 controller is used which allows both single- and double-density formats. Data separation is done by the preferred phase-lock-loop method. The controller will control up to four 5 1/4" drives, although the power supply is rated for only two. I am currently running three drives from the supply and haven't seen any smoke yet.

The board went together easily and, after correcting of what seemed to be a miswire of one control, worked well. Most circuits show R1 (the precomp control) as grounded on the bottom of the pot. This is easily fixed by a little trace cutting and a jumper wire.

Software supplied by DS68 for this card included source for driver routines, patches for TSC's NEWDISK.COM and a BOOT routine (my manual was missing the BOOT). The drivers support single- and double-density and single- and double-sided drives. There is also partial capability to read 40 track disks on an 80 track drive. Unfortunately, there is no way to tell the routine that a 40 track disk is inserted. Barrie Smith, in the Feb. '84 BIT BUCKET, described a neat solution that works. My drives include a Shugart SA460 80 track double-sided which requires a time delay before switching sides. I fixed this with some additional logic in the SEEK routine.

The NEWDISK patches declare the format at assembly time (so does TSC's). This is OK if you have only one kind of drive. Since I have several, I adapted Steve O'neal's F-MATE(RS) patches that allow inputting format parameters at run time.

DS68 has a DMA board available that works in conjunction with the disk controller for faster data transfer but since I don't have the board, I can't report on it.

#### MULTI-I/O BOARD

The Multi-I/O card contains two 6850 ACIAs and two 6821 PIAs providing two serial ports and four 8-bit parallel ports. Buffering is provided for the ACIAs (by 1488s and 1489s) to RS-232 levels.

The baud clocks for the ACIAs is generated off the board, either on the CPU card or on the mother board, in the normal SS-50 buss manner. One of the PIA ports is expected to be used as a keyboard interface; the remaining three are available for whatever the user desires. None of the parallel ports are buffered. The board is addressable in the \$E7E0-\$E7F8 area by jumpers. NMI and IRQ access is also provided by jumpers.

The construction and operation of the I/O card is straightforward and no problems were experienced. I added a 74LS240 buffer to interface with my parallel printer and a counter circuit that is part of a tracer routine in my monitor. Both of these circuits were mounted to the card by double-backed tape and scramble wired.

#### DUAL SERIAL INTERFACE CARD

This card provides two serial ports with buffering to RS-232 levels and mounts in a SS-30 port on the mother board. The circuitry is the same as the serial ports of the Multi-I/O board described above. There is a switch driven flip-flop on this board that connects to the NMI line that can be used for single-stepping. To quote the manual, "...additional software is required".

Unless you require more than two serial ports, I'd recommend you not purchase this card. Not that there's anything wrong with it, just that the Multi-I/O has the same serial capability and you will need the parallel ports of the Multi-I/O for keyboard interface.

#### MOTHER BOARD

The Mother Board has sockets for eight 50-pin boards and eight 30-pin boards. Included on the board is a baud rate generator and address decoding for the 30-pin sockets. Decoding can be done in any 4K block, including the preferred \$E000 area. A MC14411 and 1.8432 MHz crystal are used in the baud rate generator and provide all of the standard baud clocks from 110 Hz to 9.6 kHz. The 110, 300, 1200, 4800 and 9600 Hz outputs are currently buffered but this can be easily changed. The board is fabricated from 3/32" epoxy material and is quite sturdy.

#### POWER SUPPLY AND ENCLOSURE

DS68 does not sell either a power supply or a case for the computer; here you are on your own. The possibilities are to either buy from another SS-50 supplier or make your own. I chose the latter. For the power supply, I used a transformer intended for S-100 systems with bridge rectifiers and filter capacitors from my junk box. A LMB Uni-Pac (7"x17"x14") was used for the case. Be sure to include a fan (and air exit holes) if your case is closed. It gets hot in there.

#### ADDITIONAL SOFTWARE

As mentioned earlier, DS68 assumes that you own a copy of the General Version of FLEX and that you have a monitor such as SWTP SBUG E. Supplied with the various board manuals are source listings pertinent to that board. In my case, I did not have a monitor and I wanted to customize some of the DS68 software.

Software that I have written for the computer includes the following:

- a) S-MON - a firmware monitor.
- b) An enhancement of the disk driver - I/O routines provided by DS68.

- c) A "NEWDATE" routine that keeps the current date on the BOOT so that the date doesn't have to be input every time on multiple boots on the same day.
- d) An adaption of NEWDISK (called FORMAT) that allows formatting parameters to be declared at run time.
- e) A CAT.CMD that combines TSC's CAT and a DIR.CMD described in '68' MicroJournal.
- f) A BASIC program for setting up the MC6845.
- e) An improved character set with "nicer" descenders for the video board.
- h) An offset binary loader - like GET with an offset.

\*\* A disk containing the source code for the above software has been supplied to the Journal. However, at this writing I don't if or how it will be made available. Some or all of the programs may be published. As for the monitor and character set, you will need access to an EPROM burner to use them. I may be talked into burning the EPROMS if it doesn't get to be a big hassle. Or maybe DS68 can be convinced to offer them as a product.

#### COST

Below is the approximate cost of my complete DS68 computer. I'm sure I left some things out, but the total is not too bad considering the result.

Circuit boards (DS68)	\$325
SS-50 connectors and delay lines(DS68)	95
IC's (JDR Microdevices)	250
Additional IC's (Rams, etc.)	150
Connectors	50
Power Supply	50
Enclosure and Fan (LMB)	75
Video Monitor (Sanyo)	150
Keyboard	135
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Approx. Total	\$1280
Printer and Disk Drives (shop around)	?

#### IN CONCLUSION

Was it worth it? For me - yes. I have a computer that has all the features I need at a price I can live with. If, however, you are not comfortable with a schematic or a soldering iron, then this is not for you. Or if you have to pay for somebody's time to put it together, then there are better ways to go. But if you're into computers as a hobby and enjoy putting things together, then you should seriously consider the DS68 computer. SDL

#### A SPECIAL NOTE:

From time to time I have expounded upon my roots as an 'original' Standard S50 Bus computer hobbyists. I know many successful (and some rich) professionals who started as a hobbyists, with a SWTPC, SSB, MSI, Altair or Sphere, and grew professionally from there. Betcha most of you never heard of Sphere, they sold 6800 kits also, in the dark ages.

I could spend hours reciting to you stories, mostly true, of hobbyists, I have had the pleasure of knowing, who were transformed practically instantly from pure hobbyists to skilled professional, and most could practically name their price. In those days hands on experience was the key attribute and academics were secondary. Actually in those days there were no micro academics, but there were a lot of hobbyists doing their thing, and that thing was exactly what the explosive micro industry was looking for. Now those days are now gone, forever. The woods are full of high class colleges and universities loaded to the gills with micro-computer related classes. Micro (experts?) are being turned out

by the buckets full. But back then, when getting the job done right was the primary requirement, the hobbyists were the folks who got the ball rolling. I still pride myself as being a - hobbyists. I like to build. I get immense pleasure in watching the boards, parts, software (mostly home-brewed) and all the other stuff come together into a computer that I can rightly say about - "I BUILT IT"

This brings me to this, the hobbyists has practically no place to turn nowadays, for 6809 kits and boards. The reasons are varied, but basically they are the old saw of economics. Too little profit and too much work, with a small marketplace. The last of the full time kit board houses stopped advertising 6809 kits and bare boards a few months back - Data Systems 68. The reason, (see four lines up)!

Now, it is well known that I have always had, and always will have a very special feeling about that group of us 'called' hobbyists. Without us the explosion would have struggled much harder in the beginning to really bang. Fact is without us it still might be in the early formative stages. A lot of engineering know-how was developed by 'us' debugging someone else's hardware or software. Wonder where they would be now without us at that time? However, I cannot fault anyone for leaving the hobby marketplace. It is a tough one. Answering what seems to be an endless stream of 'stupid' beginners (and some not beginners) whys, hows and wheres. Well, stupid it might have seemed but as I remember it, we all, at times asked the same questions. But for all the reasons, until now, the hobby and professional or commercial kit and bare-board suppliers have about all grown away or faded from view. Leaving the guy, or gal, who has the desire, because of economics or pride of 'doing', without a one-stop source of the basic and fundamental building block - bare boards that work!

I have received more letters and telephone calls concerning the above subject, than any other, over the past years, as it got worse and worse. Go back a few years and compare how many companies, large and small, were selling bare boards and kits, with what is advertised today. Where did they all go? Well, most went down the tube. Some for poor business sense, some because of poor products (not many), some because the 'hand-holding' was just too much and there was more money to be made elsewhere, and some grew into bigger and better things. But no matter what the reason, the ultimate loser was the, right - hobbyists (or is it professional who needs to modify a particular board function), I really don't know, but I do know that hundreds of you have lamented, to me, the passing of kits and good bare boards.

This past week I have entered into an agreement with Data System 68 to exclusively distribute their boards and other hobby-kit products to our readers. In an attempt to avoid some of the problems that caused them to leave the market, some slight price adjustments will be made over what was advertised in their final ads. Most items however, will be sold at the last advertised prices. Since I started 68 Micro Journal, over 6 years ago, I have made little if any money from it. But due to other business considerations we have made ends meet and staved off the wolf. Now, with your help, if I understand what you have been telling me, I will stick with this for as long as I don't lose our corporate shirt! But you gotta help.

Agreed that the quality of these boards are above average and that the price is certainly right, and even if you all buy a lot, it still might not work. We can only answer so many questions and hold so many hands. While our support will be good I feel that you should realize that it does take some level of skill to do the whole thing right. If you have NEVER soldered a wire or put a kit or board together, well, you might have some problems. I know many, many who built kits that worked

the first time around, but some didn't. However, for the not-foign of heart, I suspect you will find it a rewarding and enjoyable adventure. The knowledge gained by trouble shooting your mistakes (and possibly ours, although I hope not) and twiddling the software to your liking to develop your very own, built by me, computer, that works as well as those 'store bought ready rolled' ones, is a thrill that only the doing can bring about.

DMW

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**Another Editors' Note:** Since the above was written there has been a nice change. I am NOT going to be in the board business - we were able to interest DIGITAL RESEARCH COMPUTER (of Texas) into buying out the entire line of boards. As most of you know what a swell job they have done with boards and kit, even to a full 64K 6809 Computer kit. My main concern is fulfilled; that is that a complete line of bare boards be available to you who still like or need to 'roll your own'. I am always glad not to get into anything that conflicts with my other advertisers. BUT, if someone does NOT do it, I will. In this case it turns out fine.

Thanks Jim, looking forward to your new line of 6809 computer boards.

DMW

## REMOTE ANALOG TO DIGITAL CONVERSION

### REMOTE ANALOG TO DIGITAL CONVERSION

An MC14469 addressable asynchronous receiver/transmitter interfaced to an ADC0B17 analog to digital converter as shown in the accompanying schematics. Control of the AART and A/D converter was effected by a serial interface card on PORT 4. Sixteen channels of data can be sampled and received by a remote computer using transmit, receive and ground lines. In addition to this, another eight bit word can be sampled by the AART. Since the AART is hardware programmed to respond to a particular address which the computer sends out, as many as 128 AART's can be tied to the transmit, receive and ground lines.

Once the MC6850 of the serial interface card has been initialized to transmit and receive in a 8 bit word, even parity, and one stop bit format, a unique address is sent out. Command words are then sent to the AART to start the A/D conversion for the channel selected. When the A/D conversion is complete, the end of conversion pulse causes the AART to send two words of data to the serial card. The second word is the eight bit value of the voltage for the channel selected. The eight bits of the first word and three bits of the command word are available for other uses. The AART communicates back and forth with the serial card at 4800 baud. A 307.2 Khz ceramic resonator was obtained from Radio Materials Company, 4242 N. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Chicago IL 60646. Their minimum order is \$150.00. An optoisolator was used to translate the 0 to +5 volt excursions of the AART to +12 and -12 volt levels. The collector to emitter voltage of the optoisolator should be rated at about 40 volts. A 5 volt power supply with a DC/DC converter can be used to provide the +12 and -12 volts. Otherwise, in addition to the 5 volt supply, a +12 and -12 volt supply must be provided.

The BASIC program REMOTE calls a USR routine which samples all sixteen channels of the A/D converter. The value of the first eight bit word is reported also. The assembly language program REATODM samples all sixteen channels of the A/D converter as well as the first eight bit word.

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21 August 1982

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1.00=
2.00= THIS PROGRAM USES FLEX 2 ROUTINES
3.00= THIS PROGRAM USES AN MC14469 ADDRESSABLE ASYNCHRONOUS RECEIVER
4.00= TRANSMITTER TO CONTROL A REMOTE ANALOG TO DIGITAL CONVERTER
5.00= VIA A SERIAL INTERFACE
6.00=
7.00= NAM REATODM
8.00= OPT PAG
9.00= DRG $1000
10.00=
11.00= DATA EQU $8011
12.00= CONTRL EQU $8010
13.00= PCRLF EQU $A074
14.00= OUTHEX EQU $AD3C
15.00= WARN EQU $A043
16.00= MEN EQU $2000
17.00= OUTCH EQU $AD0F
18.00=
19.00= CONFIGURE 6850 TO DIVIDE INCOMING DATA BY 16 CLOCK
20.00= CONFIGURE 6850 FOR 8 BITS, EVEN PARITY, ONE STOP BIT
21.00= BEGIN LDA A $10001001
22.00= STA A CONTRL
23.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
24.00= JSR LOOP1
25.00= LDA B $16
26.00= CALL UP THE AART
27.00= START LDA A $110000000
28.00= STA A DATA
29.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
30.00= JSR LOOP1
31.00= INITIALIZE THE ANALOG TO DIGITAL CONVERTER
32.00= TBA
33.00= SUB A $16
34.00= STA A DATA
35.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
36.00= JSR LOOP1
37.00= SELECT CHANNEL
38.00= TBA
39.00= STA A DATA
40.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
41.00= JSR LOOP1
42.00= START ANALOG TO DIGITAL CONVERSION
43.00= TBA
44.00= SUB A $16
45.00= STA A DATA
46.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
47.00= JSR LOOP1
48.00= CHECK TO SEE IF RECEIVE DATA REGISTER IS FULL
49.00= JSR LOOP2
50.00= GET DATA AND DISPLAY IT
51.00= LDA A DATA
52.00= STA A MEN
53.00= JSR PCRLF
54.00= LDI $MEN
55.00= JSR OUTHEX
56.00= LDA A $020
57.00= JSR OUTCH
58.00= JSR LOOP2
59.00= LDA A DATA
60.00= STA A MEN
61.00= LDI $MEN
62.00= JSR OUTHEX
63.00= LDA A $020
64.00= JSR OUTCH
65.00= INC B
66.00= CMP B $32
67.00= BNE START

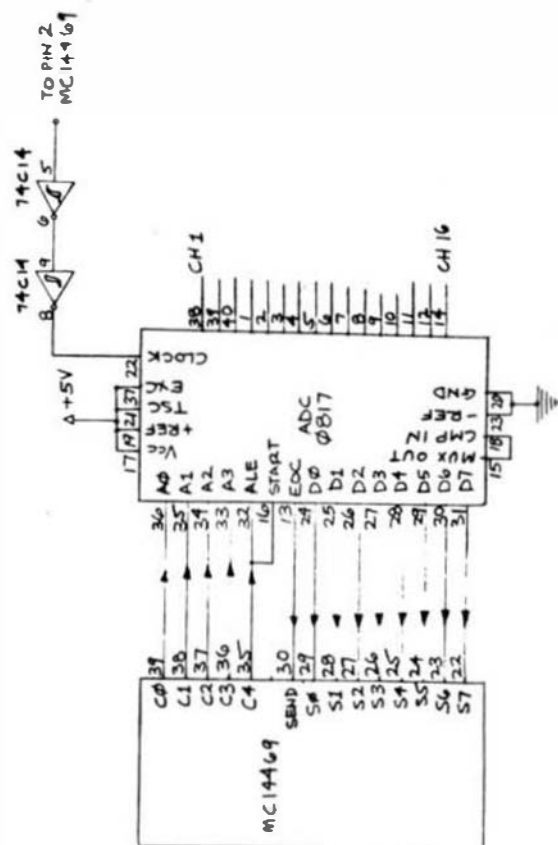
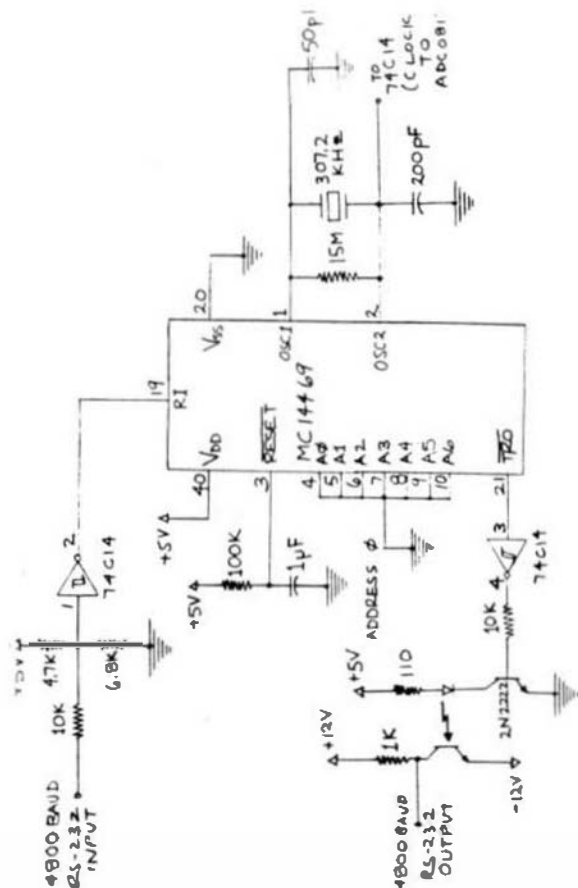
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68.00= JMP WARM
69.00= LOOP1 LDA A CONTROL
70.00= AND A $100000010
71.00= CMP A $100000010
72.00= BNE LOOP1
73.00= RTS
74.00= LOOP2 LDA A CONTROL
75.00= AND A $100000001
76.00= CMP A $100000001
77.00= BNE LOOP2
78.00= RTS
79.00= END BEGIN
1.00=
2.00= THIS PROGRAM IS A USART ROUTINE FOR BASIC
3.00= THIS PROGRAM USES AN MC14469 ADDRESSABLE ASYNCHRONOUS RECEIVER
4.00= TRANSMITTER TO CONTROL A REMOTE ANALOG TO DIGITAL CONVERTER
5.00= VIA A SERIAL INTERFACE
6.00=
7.00= NAK REATOD
8.00= OPT PAG
9.00= DRG 66000
10.00=
11.00= DATA EQU $8011
12.00= CONTROL EQU $8010
13.00=
14.00= CONFIGURE 6850 TO DIVIDE INCOMING DATA BY 16 CLOCK
15.00= CONFIGURE 6850 FOR 8 BITS, EVEN PARITY, ONE STOP BIT
16.00= BEGIN LDA A $100011001
17.00= STA A CONTROL
18.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
19.00= JSR LOOP1
20.00= LD1 017000
21.00= LDA B 016
22.00= CALL UP THE AART
23.00= START LDA A $110000000
24.00= STA A DATA
25.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
26.00= JSR LOOP1
27.00= INITIALIZE THE ANALOG TO DIGITAL CONVERTER
28.00= TBA
29.00= SUB A 016
30.00= STA A DATA
31.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
32.00= JSR LOOP1
33.00= SELECT CHANNEL
34.00= TBA
35.00= STA A DATA
36.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
37.00= JSR LOOP1
38.00= START ANALOG TO DIGITAL CONVERSION
39.00= TBA
40.00= SUB A 016
41.00= STA A DATA
42.00= CHECK TO SEE IF TRANSMIT DATA REGISTER IS EMPTY
43.00= JSR LOOP1
44.00= CHECK TO SEE IF RECETIVE DATA REGISTEN IS FULL
45.00= JSR LOOP2
46.00= GET DATA AND DISPLAY IT
47.00= LDA A DATA
48.00= STA A 0,1
49.00= IN1
50.00= JSR LOOP2
51.00= LDA A DATA
52.00= STA A 0,1
53.00= IN1
54.00= INC B
55.00= CMP B 032
56.00= BNE START
57.00= RTS
58.00= LOOP1 LDA A CONTROL
59.00= AND A $100000010
60.00= CMP A $100000010
61.00= BNE LOOP1
62.00= RTS
63.00= LOOP2 LDA A CONTROL
64.00= AND A $100000001
65.00= CMP A $100000001
66.00= BNE LOOP2
67.00= RTS
68.00= END BEGIN

```



# 6809 FLEX

## DISKETTE INVENTORY

It is easy to acquire diskettes containing potentially useful files. For safety reasons, it is best to copy these files onto other diskettes. However, it is quite often hard to remember which diskettes contain backup copies of each file. The solution to this problem is to create an inventory of all files indicating how many copies of each file exist and which diskettes contain the copies. This article describes a program to generate just such an inventory.

The program makes several assumptions as follows. You must have a 6809 microcomputer using the FLEX™ disk operating system and at least two disk drives. You must have the TSC Sort/Merge software package. The diskettes to be inventoried must be in FLEX™ format and should have unique volume numbers, but all may have the same volume name. If you do not have 2K bytes of memory mapped to start at address A000 or do not have a serial printer on port 7, simple changes must be made to the program as described later.

The program is easy to use and is shown in Listing 1. Place in drive 0 the master program diskette containing the following files: "index.cmd", "sortspec.bin", "S.CMD", "PSORT.CMD", "SRTMRC.SYS", and "LIST.CMD". The command "0.index" causes the process to begin. A prompt is given to insert into drive 1 a diskette containing plenty of free space. Several work files will be placed on this diskette. This diskette must not be removed until all processing is completed. These work files will be deleted leaving only the file "diskindx.txt" which contains the final inventory. Soon the prompt "Insert disk in drive 0 and press return. Press 'S' to stop." will appear. Each diskette to be inventoried is inserted in turn into drive 0 and the return key pressed. The master program diskette may be included in the inventory, but the work diskette (in drive 1) may not be included. If the directory of any diskette cannot be

read, a prompt will appear to remove the diskette and reinsert it. After all directories have been read, press the "S" key in response to the prompt for another diskette. Either upper or lower case "S" will work. Reinsert the master program diskette into drive 0 and press the return key in response to the prompt. The TSC Sort/Merge program will sort the files into alphabetic order by the file name extension and file name. (I.e., the CMD files will come before the TXT files.) A prompt will then appear requesting a title of up to 40 characters for the inventory. The date of the inventory and the volume name (if common to all the diskettes) are appropriate as part of the title. This title will appear at the top of each page of the inventory. After a pause to combine multiple occurrences of the same file into a single entry and create the final inventory, the final inventory will be printed on a serial printer on port 7. If the printer is attached through port 0, change the "O.S" in the familiar FLEX command portion of line number 373 in the listing to "O.S#0". If a parallel printer is attached to port 7, change the "O.S" to "O.P" and replace the file "S.CMD" on the master program diskette by the file "P.CMD". FLEX entry points may need to be changed for eight inch diskettes. Other minor changes may be needed to adapt the program to your system.

A quick look through the program will show its basic organization. Lines 14 through 28 simply permit meaningful names to be used in place of certain constants. Lines 32 through 39 issue the prompt to insert the work diskette in drive 1 and initialize the first work file. (The format of each record in the work file is described in lines 340 through 346.) Lines 41 through 86 issue the prompt to insert the next diskette to be indexed in drive 0 (41-47), read the volume number (48-59), read each directory entry (66-76), and write the work file records (77-84). After all information has been extracted from the diskette, lines 89 through 109 close the first work file (89-92), call the FLEX sort routine to sort the records into a second work file (same format) (93-105), and then delete the first work file (106-109). Lines 110 through 127 prompt for a title for the final output.

Backspace (cntl H) and cancel (cntl X) are recognized. Lines 128 through 144 prepare the files on the work diskette. Lines 145 through 215 remove duplicate file names and format the final output. (The format of the final output is described in lines 350 through 359.) This process is complicated by the fact that upper and lower case file names are considered equivalent. The case of each character in the file name is taken from the first occurrence of the file. For example, in the sample output, diskette 14 contained "LIST.CMD". Diskettes 19 and 33 contained "list.cmd" and diskette 27 contained "list.CMD". All these are considered equivalent. When all information from the sorted work file has been processed, lines 217 through 236 output the final output records and delete the sorted work file. Lines 237 through 245 cause the final output to be printed and return control to the operating system. Several minor subroutines follow. The subroutine in lines 261 through 267 outputs the header line for the top of each page. Lines 269 through 276 output a record to the final file. The subroutine in lines 282 through 320 converts 16-bit binary numbers to five-character ASCII numbers with leading blanks, if necessary. Lines 362 through 365 contain variables used by the program. Lines 368 through 371 contain file names needed to redirect the FCBs. Work file names are purposely made odd to avoid any possible duplication. Lines 373 through 376 are the FLEX commands used by the program. Lines 378 through 391 are the prompts to the user. Lines 394 and 395 are the construction area for the final output record. Lines 379 through 400 contain the top of page header. Lines 402 and 403 are the input FCB. Lines 405 through 409 are the overlapped output FCB.

A sort specification file named "sortspec.bin" must also be on the master program disk. The easiest way to create this file is to use the TSC SORT command. This program will issue a series of prompts for sort parameters. The exact prompts probably depend upon the version of the TSC sort package you have, but they should look something like those in TABLE I. You should respond to each prompt as shown in TABLE I. Each response is terminated by a

carriage return, and some responses are only a carriage return.

In short, this program fills a need for anyone experiencing difficulty keeping track of diskette files. This program is straightforward and can be easily modified to meet the system configuration of any 6809 FLEX user having two or more disk drives. If you do not wish to input the program yourself, I will send you a FLEX formatted minidiskette containing the program (in both text and command forms) and the "sortspec.bin" file for \$5.

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TABLE I  
SORTSPEC.BIN File Creation Prompts

```
output to disk? y
filename? 1.Q-XZVJGW.QHB
intermediate work file drive? 1
fixed or variable length records?
EOR character?
field separator character?
output from key, input, or other?
input keys
? 9-11,1-8,17-21
?
output keys
?
further options? y
input file text or binary?
alternate collating sequence?
lower case equivalent to upper? y
delete records with blank keys?
select/exclude option?
output text file or binary?
print messages?
save parameters? y
filename? 0.SORTSPEC.BIN
exit or proceed? e
```

```
5 3000          org      3000
6
7      * Index Program to Generate File Index for diskettes
8
9      * copyright 1981 by Tom Weaver
10     *
11     * 625 W. Sherry
12     * Norman, Okla 73069
13     * (405) 364-6656
14
15 C000 linbuf   equ     $c000   flex9 line buffer
16 C001 bufptr   equ     $c001   flex9 line buffer pointer
17 C002 wstart   equ     $c002   flex9 work start address
18 C003 spch     equ     $c003   flex9 terminal character input
19 C004 pdate    equ     $c004   flex9 terminal string output
20 C005 rpterr   equ     $c005   flex9 error report
21 C006 flex9a   equ     $c006   flex9 as a subroutine entry point
22 C007 opinr    equ     $c007   file management system entry point
23 C008 opout    equ     $c008
24 C009 close    equ     $c009
25 C00A opadir   equ     $c00A
26 C00B getdir   equ     $c00B
27 C00C delete   equ     $c00C
28 C00D opinfr   equ     $c00D
29
30
31
32 4000 0E 432B 1000A 1ds  remark
```

```

33 A003 80 CD1E      jar pdate give prompt for drive 1
34 A006 80 CD0C      jar inoh wait until ready
35 A009 8E A68C      ldx #loopfil
36 A00C 80 D406      jar rca delete any garbage
37 A00F 8E A6A0      ldx #filout
38 A012 80 D406      jar rca open initial work file
39 A015 1026 2D29      lbnz rptrr
40
41 A019 8E A3BF      * mainlp ldx #prompt
42 A01C 80 CD1C      jar pdate output prompt for new disk
43 A01F 80 CD0C      jar inoh input reply
44 A022 81 53         cmpa #15 stop ?
45 A024 27 A8         beq done yes
46 A026 81 73         cmpa #15 stop ?
47 A028 27 A8         beq done yes
48 A02A 8E A560      ldx #filin
49 A02D 06 10         ldx #loopfil
50 A02F 87 84         sta #a
51 A031 80 D406      jar rca open sys info rca
52 A034 1026 01C1     lbnz error disk read error - attempt recovery
53 A038 86 07         ldx #getdir
54 A03A 87 84         sta #a
55 A03C 80 D406      jar rca read sys info record
56 A03F 102 0186      lbnz error disk read error - attempt recovery
57 A043 8E 0F         ldx #15
58 A046 8E A285      ldx #diskno disk number
59 A048 80 A23C      jar cvtasm convert binary to ASCII
60 A04B 8E A560      ldx #filin
61 A04E 86 06         cmpa #0
62 A050 87 84         sta #a
63 A053 80 D406      jar rca open directory
64 A055 1026 01A0     lbnz error disk read error - Attempt recovery
65
66 A059 86 07         * inloop ldx #getdir
67 A05B 87 84         sta #a
68 A05D 80 D406      jar rca read directory entry
69 A060 27 09         beq inoh
70 A062 85 01         ldx #1
71 A064 81 08         cmpa #8 load error code
72 A066 27 01         beq mainlp end of file ?
73 A068 7E A1F9      jmp error no - attempt recovery
74 A06B 08 04         lat #1 directory entry used ?
75 A06D 27 A4         beq mainlp no - error
76 A06F 27 03         bnl inloop yes - deleted
77 A071 8E A280      ldx #a
78 A074 8E A560      ldx #filin=21 size of file
79 A077 80 A23C      jar cvtasm convert binary to ASCII
80 A07A 8E A571      ldx #filin=8
81 A07D 8E A6A0      ldx #filout
82 A080 80 A7A1      jar outlit output file name
83 A083 8E A280      ldx #a
84 A086 80 A7A1      jar outlit output file size and disk number
85 A089 8E A560      ldx #filin
86 A08C 20 CB         brs inloop go read next entry for this disk
87
88
89 A08E 8E A6A0      * close ldx #filout
90 A091 86 04         ldx #close
91 A093 87 84         sta #a
92 A095 80 D406      jar rca close output file
93 A098 8E A358      ldx #loopfil
94 A09B 80 CD1E      jar pdate set PCF disk back in drive 0
95 A09E 80 CD0C      jar inoh
96 A0A1 8E C080      ldx #linbuf flex9 line buffer
97 A0A4 8E A27A      ldx #partal
98 A0A7 8F CC1A      att #partal flex9 line buffer pointer
99 A0AA 8E C1         ldx #a
100 A0AC 80 C1         att #a
101 A0AE 81 00         cmpa #0 carriage return ?
102 A0B0 26 F8         bne close
103 A0B2 80 CD4B      jar filin call file sort as a subroutine
104 A0B5 50            tablb everything ok ?
105 A0B8 1026 0179     lbnz badact
106 A0BA 80 0C         ldx #delete
107 A0BC 8E A6A0      ldx #filout
108 A0BF 87 84         sta #a
109 A0C1 80 D406      jar rca delete initial work file
110 A0C4 8E A3FE      ldx #title prompt for title/date
111 A0C7 80 CD1E      jar pdate
112 A0CA 8E A2ED      ldx #head2
113 A0CD 85 50         cmpa #0 maximum title length
114 A0CF 80 D40C      jar inoh input char from terminal
115 A0D2 81 06         cmpa #6 backspace ?
116 A0D4 1027 01A2     lbnz backup yes
117 A0D8 81 00         cmpa #A00 return
118 A0DA 27 09         beq #1000 yes - end of title
119 A0DC 81 10         cmpa #10 line correct ?
120 A0DE 27 E4         beq asktit yes - start title over
121 A0E0 87 84         sta #a save character
122 A0E2 5A           dca #a title too long ?
123 A0E3 26 EA         bne titlop
124 A0E5 8C 0C0D      ldx #A00D00
125 A0E8 8D 81         att #a
126 A0EA 86 04         ldx #a
127 A0EC 87 84         sta #a
128 A0EE 8E A570      ldx #filin=1
129 A0F1 8E A2AB      ldx #partal
130 A0F4 80 A294      jar movnam name of sorted work file
131 A0F7 8E A680      ldx #outnam=1
132 A0FA 8E A287      ldx #dshid:
133 A0FD 80 A294      jar movnam name of final file
134 A100 8E A6A0      ldx #filout
135 A103 86 0C         cmpa #10 delete
136 A105 87 84         sta #a
137 A107 80 D406      jar rca delete any old INDEX
138 A10A 8E A680      ldx #outnam=1
139 A10D 8E A287      ldx #dshid:
140 A110 80 A294      jar movnam name of final file
141 A113 8E A20         ldx #filout
142 A116 80 02         cmpa #2 popnam
143 A118 87 84         sta #a
144 A11A 80 D406      jar rca open output file
145 A11D 80 A211      jar phdr output top of page header
146 A120 86 01         ldx #a
147 A122 87 84         sta #a
148 A124 80 D406      jar rca open sorted work file
149 A127 86 08         ldx #8
150 A129 8E A422      ldx #filin=10
151 A132 80 A208      jar movnam read file name
152 A135 8E A428      ldx #filin=19
153 A138 86 0D         cmpa #10
154 A13A 80 A208      finlah ldx #a
155 A13D 1F 32         tfr v,r save end of line pointer
156 A13F 80 D406      jar rca read carriage return
157 A142 8E A422      ldx #filin=10
158 A145 80 D406      jar rca read char of new file name
159 A148 26 AC         cmpa #10
160 A14A 87 84         sta #a make bit end of file
161 A14D 87 84         sta #a save this character
162 A14F 81 C0         cmpa #0 does it match prev file name char ?
163 A152 26 1B         bne notasm no

```



```

211 A255 06 A25F fillr over one thousand
212 A256 0C 0323 cmp #1000 no
213 A257 20 0C bll cthun no
214 A258 07 A25F atb fillr turn on significance
215 A259 0A 30 ers 4'0 force to print
216 A260 30 85 FC10 leas -1000.0 subtract a thousand
217 A261 4C 00 lnce
218 A262 20 1F bns cvll2
219 A263 07 41 outMun sta 1.0 store thousands digit
220 A264 06 A25F lds fillr
221 A265 0C 0064 evll3 cmp #100 over a hundred ?
222 A271 20 00 bll evlln no
223 A272 07 A25F atb fillr turn on significance
224 A273 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
225 A274 30 08 9C leas -100.0 subtract a hundred
226 A275 0C 00 lnce
227 A276 07 42 outMun sta 2.0 store hundreds digit
228 A277 06 A25F lds fillr
229 A278 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
230 A279 07 01 bll cthun no
231 A280 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
232 A281 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
233 A282 0C 00 lnce
234 A283 20 00 bns cvll2
235 A284 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
236 A285 06 A25F lds fillr
237 A286 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
238 A287 07 01 bll cthun no
239 A288 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
240 A289 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
241 A290 0C 00 lnce
242 A291 20 00 bns cvll2
243 A292 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
244 A293 06 A25F lds fillr
245 A294 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
246 A295 07 01 bll cthun no
247 A296 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
248 A297 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
249 A298 0C 00 lnce
250 A299 20 00 bns cvll2
251 A300 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
252 A301 06 A25F lds fillr
253 A302 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
254 A303 07 01 bll cthun no
255 A304 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
256 A305 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
257 A306 0C 00 lnce
258 A307 20 00 bns cvll2
259 A308 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
260 A309 06 A25F lds fillr
261 A310 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
262 A311 07 01 bll cthun no
263 A312 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
264 A313 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
265 A314 0C 00 lnce
266 A315 20 00 bns cvll2
267 A316 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
268 A317 06 A25F lds fillr
269 A318 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
270 A319 07 01 bll cthun no
271 A320 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
272 A321 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
273 A322 0C 00 lnce
274 A323 20 00 bns cvll2
275 A324 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
276 A325 06 A25F lds fillr
277 A326 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
278 A327 07 01 bll cthun no
279 A328 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
280 A329 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
281 A330 0C 00 lnce
282 A331 20 00 bns cvll2
283 A332 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
284 A333 06 A25F lds fillr
285 A334 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
286 A335 07 01 bll cthun no
287 A336 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
288 A337 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
289 A338 0C 00 lnce
290 A339 20 00 bns cvll2
291 A340 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
292 A341 06 A25F lds fillr
293 A342 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
294 A343 07 01 bll cthun no
295 A344 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
296 A345 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
297 A346 0C 00 lnce
298 A347 20 00 bns cvll2
299 A348 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
300 A349 06 A25F lds fillr
301 A350 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
302 A351 07 01 bll cthun no
303 A352 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
304 A353 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
305 A354 0C 00 lnce
306 A355 20 00 bns cvll2
307 A356 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
308 A357 06 A25F lds fillr
309 A358 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
310 A359 07 01 bll cthun no
311 A360 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
312 A361 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
313 A362 0C 00 lnce
314 A363 20 00 bns cvll2
315 A364 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
316 A365 06 A25F lds fillr
317 A366 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
318 A367 07 01 bll cthun no
319 A368 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
320 A369 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
321 A370 0C 00 lnce
322 A371 20 00 bns cvll2
323 A372 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
324 A373 06 A25F lds fillr
325 A374 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
326 A375 07 01 bll cthun no
327 A376 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
328 A377 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
329 A378 0C 00 lnce
330 A379 20 00 bns cvll2
331 A380 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
332 A381 06 A25F lds fillr
333 A382 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
334 A383 07 01 bll cthun no
335 A384 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
336 A385 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
337 A386 0C 00 lnce
338 A387 20 00 bns cvll2
339 A388 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
340 A389 06 A25F lds fillr
341 A390 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
342 A391 07 01 bll cthun no
343 A392 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
344 A393 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
345 A394 0C 00 lnce
346 A395 20 00 bns cvll2
347 A396 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
348 A397 06 A25F lds fillr
349 A398 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
350 A399 07 01 bll cthun no
351 A400 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
352 A401 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
353 A402 0C 00 lnce
354 A403 20 00 bns cvll2
355 A404 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
356 A405 06 A25F lds fillr
357 A406 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
358 A407 07 01 bll cthun no
359 A408 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
360 A409 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
361 A410 0C 00 lnce
362 A411 20 00 bns cvll2
363 A412 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
364 A413 06 A25F lds fillr
365 A414 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
366 A415 07 01 bll cthun no
367 A416 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
368 A417 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
369 A418 0C 00 lnce
370 A419 20 00 bns cvll2
371 A420 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
372 A421 06 A25F lds fillr
373 A422 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
374 A423 07 01 bll cthun no
375 A424 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
376 A425 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
377 A426 0C 00 lnce
378 A427 20 00 bns cvll2
379 A428 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
380 A429 06 A25F lds fillr
381 A430 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
382 A431 07 01 bll cthun no
383 A432 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
384 A433 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
385 A434 0C 00 lnce
386 A435 20 00 bns cvll2
387 A436 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
388 A437 06 A25F lds fillr
389 A438 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
390 A439 07 01 bll cthun no
391 A440 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
392 A441 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
393 A442 0C 00 lnce
394 A443 20 00 bns cvll2
395 A444 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
396 A445 06 A25F lds fillr
397 A446 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
398 A447 07 01 bll cthun no
399 A448 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
400 A449 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
401 A450 0C 00 lnce
402 A451 20 00 bns cvll2
403 A452 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
404 A453 06 A25F lds fillr
405 A454 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
406 A455 07 01 bll cthun no
407 A456 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
408 A457 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
409 A458 0C 00 lnce
410 A459 20 00 bns cvll2
411 A460 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
412 A461 06 A25F lds fillr
413 A462 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
414 A463 07 01 bll cthun no
415 A464 0A 30 ore #0 force to print
416 A465 30 10 leas -10.0 subtract ten
417 A466 0C 00 lnce
418 A467 20 00 bns cvll2
419 A468 07 41 outMun sta 4.0 combine digits and force units to print
420 A469 06 A25F lds fillr
421 A470 0C 0064 cvll2 cmp #10 over ten ?
422 A471 07 01 bll cthun no

```

# SYMBOL TABLE:

```

startit A0C4 atead A1B0 backup A203 bedart A213 bufpnt C01a
callup A0A4 elose 000a curlls A20E cvthun A209 cvll1 A242
cvll2 A258 cvll3 A26E cvll4 A283 cvthun A23C cvthun A28P
cvlln A27E cvlln A253 delete 000C diskno A2A5 done A08E
dskids A287 duplin A13F duplno A1A8 duplit A196 endlop A1EB
endpas A216 endskp A1C3 errmag A192 error A1P9 filln A56D
filler A287 fillou A6A0 finlss A13a flnmag A19C flnss C0A0
fls 000a fls007 header A0C7 header A4E9 lncs C0C0
lndata A208 lndex 0000 lnclop A059 lncs A571 lncs A0A8
linbuf C0B0 lncs A418 lnclop A019 lncs A35B lncs A29a
newfil A18A newlin A185 newmag A170 newmag A189 notab A1A4
opndir 000a opndir 0001 opndir 0010 opndir 0002 outdat A1A1
outdat A22F outit A1A1 outlin A221 outlin A6B1 outdat A1A2
pdate C01C pdate A211 printt A2C3 prompt A38F rncs A32B
rncs C03F rncs A2A0 ship A40C sorted A2A8 sorted A30C
sorted A2A4 tldun A0E5 tldun A3FE tldun A0C7 tldun A6BC
tldun C03

```

File name Size Disks Sample INDEX Output 27 Oct 81

```

POST .BAK 2 34
PSP .BAK 36 38
UPCASE .BAK 6 3
PATCH .BIB 3 35
SHORTSPEC.BIB 2 3
ALPH .CHD 47 1 4 12 33
CHECK .CHD 1 37
CLOCK .CHD 5 35 37
CLOCKSET .CHD 0 37
CLOCKSETA .CHD 8 35
COPY .CHD 5 1 3 4 12
COPYNEW .CHD 4 37
COPYR .CHD 1 3
DELETE .CHD 2 1 3 12 33 37
DIR .CHD 5 1 3 12 33
DUMP .CHD 1 37
EDIT .CHD 20 1 4 33 37
FILES .CHD 3 37
FILELIST .CHD 5 3
FIND .CHD 1 1 37
FINDH .CHD 1 1 35
FIX .CHD 7 1
FLAW .CHD 4 3
FREE .CHD 1 37
INDEX .CHD 6 3
LINK .CHD 1 1 3 35
LIST .CHD 3 1 3 12 33 35
MAP .CHD 1 1 37
MEMEND .CHD 1 37
MEMTEST .CHD 4 3
MODEN .CHD 4 37
MODGET .CHD 3 3
N .CHD 1 1
REWRITE .CHD 7 1 4 33 35
O .CHD 3 1 34
OUT .CHD 2 37
PODFP .CHD 5 1 37
PDEL .CHD 3 1 37
PORT .CHD 1 1 34
PA .CHD 23 1 4 12 33
PRINT .CHD 2 37
PSORT .CHD 3 3
PSP .CHD 5 1 34
QCHECK .CHD 4 1 38
QUICK .CHD 1 3
RN .CHD 2 1
RUR .CHD 2 37
S .CHD 3 1 3 4 12 33 35 37
SET .CHD 1 37
SPLIT .CHD 1 37
TEST .CHD 5 3
TTTSET .CHD 2 1 3

```

File name Size Disks Sample INDEX Output 27 Oct 81

```

UPCASE .CHD 1 3
Y .CHD 1 1
FLEX .STS 27 1 4 12 35 37
PRINT .STS 1 1 37
SHORTNG .STS 19 3
CLOCK .TXT 40 35
CLOCKSET .TXT 76 35
COMPUMAT.TXT 5 1
FIND .TXT 3 1
FINDH .TXT 3 1
INDEX .TXT 3 3
MODGET .TXT 9 3
O .TXT 9 34
PATCH .TXT 25 35
PORT .TXT 2 34
PSP .TXT 30 34
STARTUP .TXT 1 1 4 12 35 37
TEMP .TXT 12 1
UPCASE .TXT 6 3
WILL .TXT 23 1

```

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# LOG

The 'LOG' utility

By: Nico C. Yssel  
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Netherlands  
Tel: 02995-4208

The programs, which together form the LOG utility, will enable the FLEX user to copy all terminal I/O to a file.

It is often useful, especially in tricky situations, to be able to see what you have been doing. Therefore I decided to write a LOG command for FLEX. The version of FLEX I am currently using is 2.8:3, the programs are written in standard TSC 6809 assembler. As LOG.CMD relocates itself, the programs cannot be used on a 6800 FLEX version.

The syntax to invoke the log function is:

LOG <fd>

in which <fd> is a standard FLEX file descriptor. The extension defaults to '.LOG'. Do not use an extension, as it will be overwritten anyway.

To end the log function enter:

LOG OFF

It is obvious that the only log file name you cannot use is 'OFF.LOG'.

The program 'LOG.CMD' will open a log file, it then relocates itself below MEMEND, setting MEMEND to the new value. It will save and overlay the vectors INCH2, OUTCH2 and FMSCLS, then it returns to FLEX. If the file descriptor happens to be 'OFF', the reverse takes place, and the log file will be closed. The overlay of the vector INCH2 was necessary in my system, as the echo of input characters is done by the monitor, bypassing the OUTCH2 trap. In other systems the echo may be done in a different way, using the OUTCH2 vector, in which case the input part of the program can be removed (see the comments in the source listing).

To notify the user of the fact that a log file is running, the FLEX prompt will change to '>>>' as long as the log file is active.

As the log function tends to take up a lot of disk space, I have included a command XL.CMD, which removes files with the extension '.LOG', approximately in the same way as the command 'XOUT'. I have included XL into my STARTUP file, thus automatically removing all log files at system startup time.

A LOGLIST.CMD has been included, using .LOG as default extension and suppressing the extra line feed of LIST.CMD.

Even if you feel that you have no use for a log function, it is fun to try it out.

N.B. Some programs do not use GETCHR or PUTCHR !!

```
*****
*
* LOG COMMAND (LOG.CMD) WITH AUTOMATIC
* LOGGING OF THE CONSOLE DIALOGUE.
*
* THIS PROGRAM NEEDS THE COMMAND XL TO DELETE
* OLD LOG FILES.
*
* USE XL IN YOUR STARTUP FILE
* USE LOGLIST TO LIST THE LOG FILE
*
* BY Nico C. Yssel.
* ELGER 20, 1141 CD MONNICKENDAM,
* NETHERLANDS
* TEL. 02995-4208
*
```

```
*****
*
* N.B. N.B. N.B. N.B. N.B. N.B. N.B. N.B. N.B.
*
* CODE, NECESSARY TO CHANGE "INCH2" IS
* PRECEDED BY IF MECHO AND FOLLOWED BY ENDDIF
* SET MECHO EQU 0 IF CODE IS NOT REQUIRED
*
```

```
0001 MECHO EQU 1 MONITOR ECHO FLAG ON
*
```

\* FLEX LABEL EQUATES

```
0003 WARPS EQU 0003
0015 GETCHR EQU 0015
001E PSIRNG EQU 001E
0020 GETFIL EQU 0020
003F RPTERR EQU 003F
0406 FMS EQU 0406
0409 FCBBAS EQU 0409
0C2B MEMEND EQU 0C2B
```

\* ASCII CODE EQUATES

```
0004 EOT EQU 04
0004 FNAME EQU 4
000C EXT EQU 12
000D CR EQU 0D
0020 SPACE EQU 20
```

\* EXTERNAL LABEL EQUATES

```
0C00 SYSFLG EQU 0C00
0C43 RETADR EQU 0C43
0D13 OUT2V EQU 0D13 OUTCH2 WILL BE CHANGED !!!!!
```

```
*
*
* 0000 INCH2V EQU 0000 INCH2 WILL BE CHANGED !!!!!
*
*
* 0404 CLSVIC EQU 0404
* 0C4C PROMPT EQU 0C4C
```

```
C100 ORG 0C100
```

```
C100 20 05 START0 BRA START1 BRANCH OVER VERSION
C102 81 2E 30 3A FCB 001,02E,030,03A,030 V = 1.0:0
C106 80
C107 86 01 START1 LDA #1
C109 07 0C00 STA SYSFLD SET NON-ZERO
```

```
*
* THE FOLLOWING CODE GETS THE LOG FILE
* NAME AND PUT IT INTO THE FCB.
* IF THE LOG FILE NAME IS 'OFF' THEN
* THE LOGGING ACTION WILL BE TERMINATED
*
```

```
C10C 30 80 3190 LEA1 LOGFCB,PCB
C110 80 0C20 JSR GETFIL GET THE FILE NAME
C113 EC 04 LDB FNAME,X
```

```
*
* THE NEXT CODE CHECKS TO SEE IF THE FILE
* NAME IS 'OFF', FOLLOWED BY ALL ZERO'S
*
```

```
C115 1083 6F46 CMPD 0(256*0+7)
C119 26 10 BNE LOOST
C11B EC 06 LDB FNAME+2,X
C11D 1083 4600 CMPD 0(256*0+7)
C121 26 08 BNE LOOST
C123 EC 08 LDB FNAME+4,X
```

```

C125 E3 0A      ADDI  FNAM+6,X
C127 1027 00BF  LBEA  LOGEND
                C12B LOGST EQU 0
C12B CC 4C4F    LDD   01256+L+01
C12E ED 0C      STD   EXT,X
C130 36 47      LDA   07G
C132 ED 0E      STD   EXT+2,X

*****
* SAVE THE SYSTEM OPTIONS AND POINTERS. *
* TO BE RESTORED AFTER LOG HAS ENDED. *
*****

C134 FC C143    LDD   RETADR
C137 ED 8C 0128 STD   L..RETA,PCR
C13B FC C013    LDD   OUT2V  MUST BE REDIRECTED
C13E ED 8D 0123 STD   L..OVC,PCR

C142 FC C00D    LDD   INCH2V  MUST BE REDIRECTED FOR ECHO TO FILE
C145 ED 8D 011E STD   L..IVBC,PCR

C149 FC 2404    LDD   CLSVEC  AS ABOVE
C14C ED 8D 0119 STD   L..CLSV,PCR

*****
* NOW GET THE MEMORY END. SAVE IT. AND *
* SUBTRACT THE SIZE OF THE RELOCATABLE *
* PART TO MAKE SPACE FOR LOG AND THEN *
* RELOCATE IT. *
*****

C150 FC C02B    LDD   MEMEND  GET END OF MEMORY
C153 ED 5D 010A STD   L..MEMD,PCR  SAVE IT
C157 83 01E7    SUBD   0PISIZE  GET SIZE OF PART 2
C15A 25 2F      BCS    MZLOW  IF CARRY SET PISIZE > MEMORY
C15C FD C02B    STD   MEMEND  CAN DO
C15F 1F 02      IFR    0.Y     NEW MEMEND => Y
C161 31 21      LEAY   1.Y     START IS 1 HIGHER
C163 CC 01E7    LDD   0PISIZE  GET SIZE AGAIN
C166 34 22      PSMS  A.Y     SAVE M.O. SIZE AND XFER ADDRESS
C168 30 8D 009A LEA1  PIPART,PCR X POINTS TO PART 2
C16C 5D         TS1B         C $100 TO MOVE?
C16D 27 03      BEQ    DECSB   YES

XC16F 17 0011  MOVLSB LBSR  MOVE1X  MOVE $100 BYTES

C172 6A E4      DECSB  DEC   0.5  DEC M.O. SIZE
C174 2A F9      BPL    MOVLSB  SOME LEFT?
C176 CC 3E3E    LDD   013E3E  LOG PROMPT IS >>>
C179 FD CCAC    STD   PROMPT
C17C B7 CCAE    STA   PROMPT+2
C17F 35 82      PLS    A+PC  FORMER Y NOW IN PC

C181 C6 0C      MOVE12 LDB   #12

C183 A6 80      MOVE1X LDA   0.1+
C185 A7 40      STA   0.Y+
C187 5A         DECB
C188 26 F9      BNE    MOVE1X
C18A 39         RTS

C18B 30 8D 0009 MZLOW  LEA1  MSG4,PCR

C18F 8D C01E    ERRDIT JSR   PSIRNG
C192 31 8D 00C7 LEAY   OUTPUT,PCR
C196 20 39      BRA    RESTOR

C198 2D 20 20 4E MSG4  FDC   -- Not enough memory for a log --,EDT
C19C 6F 74 20 65
C1A0 6E 6F 75 67
C1A4 68 20 6D 65
C1A8 6D 6F 72 79
C1AC 20 66 6F 72
C1B0 20 6F 20 6C

```

```

C184 6F 67 20 2D
C188 2D 04

C18A LOGEND EQU 0

C18A 108E C013  LDY   OUT2V  GET ADDRESS OF LOG OUTPUT
C18E AE A9 000E  LDX   D..FCB.Y  GET THE FCB ADDRESS
C1C2 86 04      LDA   #4
C1C4 A7 34      STA   0.X     INSERT CLOSE FILE CMD
C1C6 BD D406    JSR   FMS
C1C9 27 06      BEQ    RESTOR
C1CB BD C03F    JSR   RPTERR
C1CE 7E C003    JMP    WARRS

C1D1 RESTOR EQU 0
C1D1 EC A9 0002  LDD   JANDFS.Y  FIND THE START OF LOG
C1D5 10B3 C02B  CMPLD  MEMEND
C1D9 26 03      BNE    NONECH  NONECH
C1DB FD C02B    STD   MEMEND

C1DE EC A9 0006  LDD   0..RETA.Y
C1E2 FD C143    STD   RETADR
C1E3 BC A9 0008  LDD   0..OVC.Y
C1E9 FD C013    STD   OUT2V

C1EC EC A9 000A  LDD   0..IVEC.Y
C1F0 FD C00D    STD   INCH2V

C1F3 BC A9 000C  LDD   0..CLSV.Y
C1F7 FD D404    STD   CLSVEC
C1FA CC 202B    LDD   012B2B  ORIGINAL PROMPT IS ...
C1FD FD CCAC    STD   PROMPT
C200 87 CCAE    STA   PROMPT+2

C203 7E C003    JMP    WARRS

C205 LSTHEN EQU 0--1

C206 30 8C FD  PIPART LEA1  PIPART,PCR POINT TO OWN END
C209 30 1F      LEA1  -1,X
C20B AF 8D 0050  STX   0..MEMD,PCR
C20F 30 8D 009A  LEA1  LOGFCB,PCR POINT TO FCB
C213 AF 8D 005A  STX   L..FCB,PCR  SAVE IT
C217 86 02      LDA   #2     OPEN FOR WRITE
C219 A7 84      STA   0.X
C21B BD D406    JSR   FMS    DO FLEX CALL
C21E 27 25      BEQ    LOOKOK OK?
C220 30 8D 0005  LEA1  MSG5,PCR
C224 BD C01E    JSR   PSIRNG
C227 20 A2      BRA    RINGTOR

C229 2D 20 20 43 MSG5  FDC   -- Can't create a log file --,EDT
C22D 61 6E 27 74
C231 2D 63 72 65
C235 61 74 65 2D
C239 61 6E 20 6C
C23B 6F 67 20 66
C241 69 6C 65 04

*****
* NOW OVERLAY THE VECTORS FOR PUTCHAR *
* AND FOR FMSCLOSE WITH LOG ENTRIES. *
*****

C245 30 8D 0034  LOOKOK LEA1  0..OVC,PCR
C249 8F D404    STX   CLSVEC
C24C 30 8D 000D  LEA1  OUTPUT,PCR
C250 8F C013    STX   OUT2V

C253 30 8D 0046  LEA1  INPUT,PCR
C257 BF C00D    STX   INCH2V

C25A 7E C003    JMP    WARRS

```

```

C25D 20 JE      OUTPUT BRA  OUTPUT11
*
C25F          OMEMO RMB  2
C261          LMEMO RMB  2
C263          LRETA RMB  1
C264          LRETB RMB  1
C265          L.OVEC RMB  2
*
C267          L.IVEC RMB  2
*
C269          L.O.SV RMB  2
C26B          L.FCB RMB  2
*
0002 OMEMOFS EQU  OMEMO-OUTPUT
0004 OMEMO EQU    LMEMO-OUTPUT
0006 ORETA EQU    LRETA-OUTPUT
0007 ORETB EQU    LRETB-OUTPUT
0008 O.OVEC EQU    L.OVEC-OUTPUT
*
000A O.IVBC EQU    L.IVBC-OUTPUT
*
000C O.O.SV EQU    L.O.SV-OUTPUT
000E O.FCB EQU     L.FCB-OUTPUT
*
C26D 34 16      OUTPUT1 PSMS A.B.X
C26F 30 80 003A PROHAR LEAI LOGFCB,PC
C273 BD 3406     JSR      FMS      OUTPUT TO FILE
C276 30 8C EC     LEAI    L.OVEC,PC
C279 AD 94        JSR      [0,X]
*
C27B 35 96      OUTRTN PULS A.B.I,PC
C27D 34 16      OCLOSE PSMS A.B.I
C27F 8E D409     LDI      FCBBAS 1ST LINK IN X
C282 27 F7      BEQ      OUTRTN NO OPEN FILES
*
C284 BC 84      QLIST LDD  O,X      GET ADDRESS OF NEXT LINK
C286 34 06      PSMS  A.B         SAME IT ON THE STACK
C288 30 88 E4     LEAI    -28,X    GET THE RELATED FCB
C28B AC 8C D0     CMPI    L.FCB,PC SAME AS WE USED?
C28E 27 07      BEQ      IGNORE YES, IGNORE
C290 86 04      LDA      04       CODE FOR CLOSE FILE
C292 A7 84      STA      0,X
C294 BD D406     JSR      FMS      DO CLOSE FUNCTION
*
C297 AE E1      IGNORE LDI  O,S++ GET POINTER BACK FROM THE STACK
C299 26 E9      BNE      QLIST MORE?
*
C29B 35 96      PULS  A.B.I,PC
*
*
C29D 34 14      INPUT  PSMS  B,X
C29F 30 8C C5     LEAI    L.IVEC,PC
C2A2 AD 94        JSR      [0,X] DO NORMAL INPUT
C2A4 30 BD 0085    LEAI    LOGFCB,PC
C2A8 BD D406     JSR      FMS      OUTPUT WORD TO FILE
C2AB 35 94      PULS  B.I,PC
*
*
C2AD LOGFCB EQU  *
C2AD FCB  EQU  $40 FCB DESCRIPTOR
C2ED OUTBUF EQU  *
*
C2ED FCB  EQU  $100 FCB BUFFER
01E7 PISIZE EQU  *-P1PART
*
END STARTO

```

1 ERROR(S) DETECTED

SYMBOL TABLE:

QLIST C284 CLSMEC D404 OR 0000 DECDSB C172 NOT 0004

```

ERRORT C18F EXT 000C FCBBAS D409 FMS D406 FMAN 0004
GETFIL C02D IGNORE C297 INCH2V C000 INPUT C29D
LOGEND C18A LOGFCB C2AD LOGOK C245 LOGST C12B LSTMEM C205
L.O.SV C269 L.FCB C26B L.IVEC C267 LMEMO C261 L.OVEC C265
LJRETA C263 LJRETB C264 MCLOW C188 MECHO 0001 MEMEMO C228
MOVE12 C181 MOVE1Y C183 MOWLSB C16F MSGA C198 MSGS C229
NOMECH C1DE OCLOSE C27D OUT2V C013 OUTBUF C2ED OUTP11 C26D
OUTPUT C25D OUTRTN C27B OMEMO C25F OMEMOFS 0002 O.O.SV 000C
O.FCB 000E O.IVEC 000A OMEMO 0004 O.OVBC 0008 O.RETA 0006
ORETB 0007 P1PART C206 PISIZE 01E7 PROHAR C26F PROMPT CCAC
PSTRNG C01E RESTOR C1D1 RETADR C043 RPTERR C03F SPACE 0020
STARTO C100 START1 C107 SYSPLG C00D WARMS C003

```

```

*****
* LOGLIST, A UTILITY TO LIST LOG FILES *
* BY: *
* NICO C. VESSEL *
* ELDER 20 *
* 1141 CD MONNICKENDAM *
* NETHERLANDS *
* TEL. 02995-4208 *
*****

```

OPT PAG.NOG

```

D403 FMSCLS EQU  $D403
D406 FMSCLS EQU  $D406
C02D GETFIL EQU  $C02D
C033 SETEXT EQU  $C033
C03F RPTERR EQU  $C03F
C018 PUTCHR EQU  $C018
C003 WARMS EQU  $C003
C840 FCB EQU  $C840
0008 EOF EQU  $08
000C EXT EQU  $0C
*
C100          DRG  $C100
C100 20 01     EQU  *
C102 12        BRA  BEGIN
NOP
*
C103 BE C840   LDI  #FCB
C106 BD C02D   JSR  GETFIL
C109 24 09     BCC  FILOK
C10B BE C840   LDI  #FCB
C10E C6 15     LDB  #15
C110 E7 01     STB  $01,X
C112 20 27     BRA  EXEMPT
C114 CC 404F   FILOK LDD  $125A*(L+0) EXTENSION IS LOG
C117 ED 0C     STD  EXT,X
C119 B6 47     LDA  0'0
C11B A7 0E     STA  EXT+2,X
C11D B6 01     LDA  01
C11F A7 84     STA  0,X
C121 BD D406   JSR  FMSCLS OPEN FOR READ
C124 25 15     BCS  EXEMPT
C126 4F        CLRA
C127 A7 84     STA  0,X
C129 BD D406   GETNIT JSR  FMSCLS SET TO NEXT CHAR COMMAND
C12C 27 08     BEQ  PRINTIT PUT IN FCB
C12E E6 01     LDB  1,X GET 1 CHARACTER FROM THE FILE
C130 C1 08     CMPI  #EOF
C132 26 DC     BNE  SIMERR
C134 20 08     BRA  RETURN
C136 BD C018   PRINTIT JSR  PUTCHR LOOP
C139 20 EE     BRA  GETNIT
C13B BD C03F   EXEMPT JSR  RPTERR
C13E BD D403   RETURN JSR  FMSCLS
C141 7E C003   JPP  WARMS
*
END STARTO

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

SYMBOL TABLE:

BEGIN C103 EOF 0008 EXEMPT C13B EXT 000C FCB C840  
FILOK C114 FMSCLS D406 FMSCLS D403 GETFIL C02D GETNIT C129  
PRINTIT C136 PUTCHR C018 RETURN C13E SETEXT C033  
SIMERR C110 START C100 WARMS C003



```

* ERASE LOG FILES AUTOMATICALLY WITHOUT PROMPT
OPT PAG,MOG

*** ILLEGAL OPTION

C840 SYSFCB EQU %C840
C002 TTYEOL EQU %C002
CC11 LSTTRM EQU %CC11
CD03 WARMS EQU %CD03
CD1E PSTRMG EQU %CD1E
CD3F RPTERR EQU %CD3F
CD4B INDMC EQU %CD4B
D406 FMS EQU %D406
CC0C MDRM EQU %CC0C
0004 EOL EQU 4

```

```

C100 ORG %C100

C100 20 05 START BRA START1
C102 81 2E 80 3A FCB %81, %2E, %80, %3A, %80
C106 80

C107 20 05 START1 BRA START2
C109 WORK0 RMB 1
C10A WORK1 RMB 1
C10B L_DRV RMB 1
C10C LC106 RMB 1
C10D LC107 RMB 1
C10E START2 EQU *

C10E 8E C1C9 LDX MESSG
C111 80 CD1E JSR PSTRMG
C114 86 CC11 LDA LSTTRM
C117 81 80 CMPA #000
C119 27 14 BEQ SET_W
C11B 81 C002 CMPA TTYEOL
C11E 27 0F BEQ SET_W
C120 80 CD4B JSR INDMC
C123 25 51 BCS BAD_D
C125 8F C109 STX WORK0
C128 86 C10A LDA WORK1
C12B 84 03 ANDA #3
C12D 20 03 BRA ST_DRV
C12F 86 CC0C SET_W LDA MDRM
C132 87 C10B ST_DRV STA L_DRV
C135 8E 8040 LDX #SYSFCB
C138 87 03 STA 3,X
C13A 8E C840 G_SYS LDX #SYSFCB
C13D 86 06 LDA #6 OPEN DIRECTORY
C13F 87 84 STA 0,X
C141 8D D406 JSR FMS
C144 26 2A BNE ERROR
XC146 8D C187 INFLP JSR GTINF
C149 26 34 BNE TSTEOF
C14B 8D 04 YST 4,X
C14D 2B F7 BMI INFLP DELETED FILE
C14F 27 22 BEQ LEAVE END OF DIRECTORY
C151 EC 0C LOD 12,X
C153 1083 4C4F CMPD #1256*(L+D)
C157 26 ED BNE INFLP
C159 86 0E LDA 14,X
C15B 81 47 CMPA 0'0
C15D 26 E7 BNE INFLP
XC15F 8D C191 JSR TSPool
C162 27 E2 BEQ INFLP
C164 8E C840 LDX #SYSFCB
C167 86 0C LDA #MAC DELETE CODE
C169 87 84 STA 0,X
C16B 8D D406 JSR FMS
C16E 27 CA BEQ G_SYS
C170 8D CD3F ERROR JSR RPTERR
C173 7E CD03 LEAVE JMP WARMS
C176 8E C840 BAD_D LDX #SYSFCB
C179 C6 1A LDB #1A
C17B E7 01 STB 1,X
C17D 20 F1 BRA ERROR
C17F 86 01 TSTEOF LDA 1,X
C181 81 08 CMPA #8 BOF?
C183 26 EB BNE ERROR
C185 20 EC BRA LEAVE
C187 8E C840 GTINF LDX #SYSFCB
C18A 86 07 LDA #7 GET INFO REC
C18C 87 84 STA 0,X
C18E 7E D406 JMP FMS

```

```

C191 86 C718 TSPool LDA %C718
C194 87 C10C STA LC106
C197 27 2D BEQ LC1E3
C199 86 03 LDA 3,X
C19B 87 C18D STA LC107
C19E EC 88 11 LOD 17,X
C1A1 BE C719 LDX %C719
C1A4 10A3 01 LC188 CMPD 1,X
C1A7 26 0C BNE LC1CC
C1A9 34 02 PSMS A
C1AB 86 C10D LDA LC107
C1AE A1 84 CMPA 0,X
C1B0 35 02 PLAS A
C1B2 26 01 BNE LC1CC
C1B4 39 RTS
C1B5 7A C10C LC1CC DEC LC106
C1B8 27 0C BEQ LC1E3
C1BA 30 04 LEAX 4,X
C1BC 8C C840 CMPX #SYSFCB
C1BF 26 03 BNE LC1E1
C1C1 8E C810 LDX #C810
C1C4 20 DE LC1E1 BRA LC1B8
C1C6 86 01 LC1E3 LDA #1
C1C8 39 RTS

C1C9 MESSG EQU *
C1C9 0D 0A 0A FCB %0D, %0A, %0A
C1CC 2A 2A 2A 2A FCC %2A, %2A, %2A, %2A
C1D0 20 52 45 4D
C1D4 4F 56 41 4C
C1D8 20 4F 46 20
C1DC 4F 4C 44 20
C1E0 4C 4F 47 20
C1E4 46 49 4C 45
C1E8 53 20 49 4E
C1EC 20 50 52 4F
C1F0 47 52 45 53
C1F4 53
C1F5 0D 0A 04 FCB %0D, %0A, %04
END START

```

1 ERROR(S) DETECTED

SYMBOL TABLE:

```

BAD_D C176 EOL 0004 ERROR C170 FMS D406 GTINF C187
INDEC CD4B INFLP C146 LC106 C10C LC107 C10D LC188 C1A4
LC1CC C1B5 LC1E1 C1C4 LC1E3 C1C6 LEAVE C173 LSTTRM CC11
L_DRV C10B MESSG C1C9 G_SYS C13A PSTRMG CD1E RPTERR CD3F
SET_W C12F START C100 START2 C10E ST_DRV C132
SYSFCB C840 TSPool C191 TSTEOF C17F TTYEOL CD02 WARMS CD03
WORK0 C109 WORK1 C10A MDRM CC0C

```

## GENERAL PURPOSE INTERFACE BUS

BY: J.C. MOORE  
1 THE SPINNEY,  
FLEET,  
HANTS, ENGLAND  
THE MC68488 AND THE GPIB

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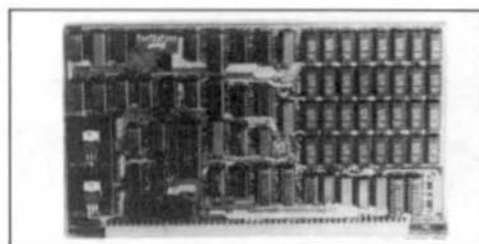
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number of BASIC programs from a PET to a Superbrain. I did this by fitting the Superbrain with a GPIB Interface using the Motorola MC86488. File transfer was then fast and efficient.

More recently I designed an S30 bus interface card for Windrush which is now being sold in Europe and America. This article is written to provide an introductory explanation and some background on the GPIB which may be of general interest to all readers.

#### Bus Hardware

The GPIB was originated about 10 years ago by engineers at Hewlett Packard. It connects together between 2 and 15 devices in a tree network. Normally one device is a system controller and the rest are talkers and listeners. Each talker/listener is assigned a unique device number (address). This is often set on DIP switches in the device. Additional devices can be serviced by having more than one control interface in the host computer and also by allocating secondary addresses to each primary address.

The bus carries 8 parallel data lines which allow transfers at up to 500000 bytes/second if the devices are separated by no more than 1 metre each with an end-to-end length of 15 metres, or 250000 bytes/second with separations of 2 metres and 20 metres end-to-end. As you can see this is pretty fast. In practice transfer speeds are usually limited by the software in the instruments and the controller. A second set of 8 lines carries 3 handshaking and 5 control signals.

Electrically each of the 16 lines is driven by a 3 state driver or an open collector driver capable of sinking 48 mA (eg a standard TTL 7433 or 7438) so that up to 15 drivers can feed the same line in a wired-AND configuration. This means that all drivers must be off for the line to go high, and thus the slowest active device on the bus can control the rate of transfer by holding the line low until it is ready. Each line also carries a line receiver, usually a differential device to minimise the effects of any noise picked up.

#### Specification

The GPIB is completely specified in IEEE488-1978 with a minor amendment published in 1980. This is a very comprehensive document. Luckily you do not have to be familiar with it to be able to use the bus! There is also an equivalent European spec IEC-625-1 which is not much used.

#### Uses

The bus may be used to connect together networks of computers for transferring files as mentioned already; also to connect a controlling computer to floppy disk & hard disk drives, printers, digital plotters, and a wide variety of laboratory instruments including signal generators, voltmeters, frequency counters, A to D converters and the like. This lets you construct versatile Automatic Test Equipment (ATE) installations.

#### Bus Messages

Message bytes over the bus take one of two forms:

1. Command bytes are sent by the controller. These are identified by making one of the control lines (ATN i.e. attention) true at the same time.

There are quite a few possible commands. The most common ones are concerned with telling a selected device to talk or listen, and telling devices to unlisten or untalk. All devices on the bus must read all command messages, regardless of what they were doing before, and respond if required.

2. Data bytes are sent by any device when the ATN line is false. Often they will be in ASCII. Message strings may be terminated by a carriage return/line-feed, and also by making another control line (EOI end or identify) true.

Thus the majority of transfer sequences are of the form shown in the example below:

Source	Byte(hex)	ATN	EOI	Remarks
controller	46	true	-	Tell device 6 to be a talker
controller	27	true	-	Tell device 7 to be a listener
-	-	false	false	Controller releases bus
device 6	48	"	"	'H'
"	45	"	"	'E'
"	4C	"	"	'L'
"	4C	"	"	'L'
"	4F	"	"	'O'
"	00	"	"	C/R
"	0A	false	true	L/F + EOI
(controller recognises end of message and arranges an orderly close down:)				
controller	3F	true	false	Untalk all
controller	3F	true	false	Unlisten all

Throughout the above sequence the flow of data was controlled by the 3 handshake lines, which are: RFD ready for data, DAV data available, and DAC data accept. To complete the story there are 3 more control lines: SRQ service request, REN remote enable, and IFC interface clear. These 3 are not normally used in simple systems.

#### Implementation

The electrical interface to the GPIB may conveniently be provided by 2 Motorola MC3447 or 4 MC3448 bus transceiver ICs. These are a cost-effective way of meeting the full IEEE488 electrical spec. The control logic can be implemented in hardware or software. A software solution could use a program to drive two ports of a 6821 PIA. By this means all 16 lines can be toggled and read as necessary. This could be a cheap way of providing a partial subset of the GPIB capabilities. For a talker/listener it will not meet the IEEE spec of responding to the ATN line in 200nS, although this may not be important.

The simple hardware solution is to use the MC68488 which is a 40 pin IC programmed for the job. This will run at the full bus speed and handle all handshaking automatically. On the processor side it will be limited by the host software, although DMA could be used for really fast applications. The 68488 will interface directly to a 6800/6809 bus. It has 3 register select lines so will require 8 bytes of address space.

The only catch with this IC is that it does not provide any controller functions. These have to be supplied by additional external logic.

Program control of the 68488 is very simple as the following examples show:

```

WARMs EQU $CD03
GETCHR EQU $CD15
PUTCHR EQU $CD18

```



\* MC68488 addresses assuming card is in slot 2:

```
REG0 EQU $E020
REG2 EQU $E022
REG3 EQU $E023
REG4 EQU $E024
REG7 EQU $E027
```

MYDEVN EQU 4 My device number

EOFCHR EQU \$1A Control Z, often marks end of text files

```
*
* To read a file from another device:
*
0000      ORG $0000 Or wherever
0000 B6 80 RFILE LDA $10000000
0002 B7 E023 STA REG3 Reset
0004 4F CLR CLRA
0006 B7 E023 STA REG3 Release reset
0008 B6 04 LDA MYDEVN
000A B7 E024 STA REG4 Primary address
000C 4F CLR CLRA
000E B7 E022 STA REG2 Default address codes
*
* Now initialized.
* Assume remote controller will make us a listener.
+0012 B0 00FF READ JSR RYTIM
*
* Display character, or write to disk file if using Flex "O" utility.
*
0015 B0 0018 JSR PUTCHR
0016 B1 1A CMA CMA OF CHAR
001A 27 04 REG REG
001C C9 02 RTB $B0000000 END detected?
001E 27 02 REG READ
0020 7E 00N3 JMP WARM5
*
* End.
*
* Now send keyboard or a disk file to another device.
*
0025 B6 80 RFILE LDA $10000000
0027 B7 E023 STA REG3 Reset
0029 4F CLR CLRA
002B B7 E023 STA REG3 Release reset
002C B6 04 LDA MYDEVN
002E B7 E024 STA REG4 Primary address
0030 4F CLR CLRA
0032 B7 E027 STA REG7 Default address codes
*
* Now initialized as before.
* Assume remote controller will make us a talker.
0035 B0 0015 SEND JSR GETCHR
0036 B1 1A CMA CMA OF CHAR
003A 27 05 REG SEND IF
+003C B0 0030 JSR RYTIM
003E 20 F4 BRA SEND
0040 34 02 SEND PSMA
0042 B6 20 LDA $E0100000
0044 B7 E023 STA REG3 Force EOI
0046 35 02 PSMA PLA
+0048 B0 0030 JSR RYTIM
004A 7E 00N3 JMP WARM5
*
*
0050 34 02 RYTIM PSMA
0052 B6 E020 L7 LDA REG0
0054 B4 40 ANDA $B0100000 Previous byte gone?
0056 27 F9 REG L7
0058 35 02 PLA PLA
005A B7 E027 STA REG7
005C 39 RTS
*
*
0065 B6 E020 RYTIM LDA REG0
0067 B9 01 RTA $B0000000? Ryle available?
006A 27 F9 REG RYTIM
006C 1F 0040 TAA
006E B6 E027 LDA REG7
0068 39 RTS Save END STATUS & release DRG line
*
*
```

## Other Solutions

Some other manufacturers of GPIB ICs that I know of are:

1. Intel 8291 and 8292 chip set. These also require 2 8293s for the bus interface, or 5 MC3448s and some TTL.
2. Texas TMS9914. This requires a 75160A and a 75162A for bus interface.
3. Fairchild 96LS488. This is a 48 pin device which includes the bus interface. It is designed for stand alone (non program controlled) instruments. It would need additional logic to provide a controller function. Fairchild also second-source the 68488.

Of all these ranges the Motorola combination is the cheapest.

## Windrush Card

If you don't wish to brew your own the Windrush card is a complete ready to go solution. It is a compact S30 bus PCB with gold plated edge connectors and all ICs socketed. It uses the MC68488 with additional logic to provide a complete controller/talker/listener facility. It is supplied with a comprehensive manual which includes circuit diagrams, all instructions, and full software listings. Also included is a full reprint of the Kilobaud articles (Reference 4 below).

## References

Much more information on the GPIB is contained in the following sources:

1. Windrush IEEE488 Controller Manual.
2. Motorola MC68488 Data Leaflet.
3. Motorola "Getting aboard the 488-1975 bus".
4. "Get your PET on the IEEE488 bus" by G.Yob, Kilobaud, Jul Aug & Sep 1980.
5. "The PET and the IEEE488 bus", by E.Fisher & C.W.Jensen, published by Osborne/McGraw-Hill (ref no 0-931988-31-4).

# BIT BUCKET

30a-b7board Data Entry to a 6800 microcomputer.  
A.J. Bell,  
Diagonale Witteveen Valt.  
Queen Wilhelmina Hospital.  
Glasgow, Scotland.

## INTRODUCTION:

Digitizers or Graph tablets convert graphical coordinates into a diagram, map, chart recorded or into data digital form for analysis or processing by computer. Coordinate points, which must lie within the active area of the digitizer, are specified by touching them with a pen-like stylus. The digitizer "Bitpad One" (Trade M.) is an example of what is available commercially; it operates on the electrostatic principle with a current pulse being sent along a "read" wire lying at right angles to a electrostatic wire mesh laid beneath the pad surface. The current causes the mesh dimensions to change and the resultant stress wave is detected by coils within the stylus. An inbuilt microprocessor calculates the coordinate position of the pen from the time taken for the wave to reach the stylus. It also senses whether the stylus tip microswitch is closed or not and sets a flag accordingly. Depending on the type of Bitpad the data is then output, either in a bit parallel or in RS232 serial format.

## MODES OF OPERATION

The mode and rate of sampling data points can be predetermined by internal switch settings or be selected under software control; the latter is more flexible especially if the Bitpad is interfaced to a microcomputer. The RS232 interfaced Bitpad is controlled by sending an ASCII character to it; this selects the desired sampling rate of coordinate pairs and the operational mode. The modes are as follows:- Point Mode - on depressing the stylus and closing the tip microswitch the Bitpad outputs an X,Y coordinate pair and a flag for 1/0 up/down. Stroke Mode - the flag and coordinate pair are output continuously while the stylus is either in contact with the pad or close to its surface. Switch Stroke Mode - depression of the stylus to close the tip microswitch causes a stream of coordinate pairs and flags to be output until the stylus is lifted to open the tip microswitch even though the tip still remains in contact with the pad.

Data Format - RS232 serial and arranged as below

3333.YYYY.P Cn Lp

The line feed (LF) is optional and switch selectable; the data is in ASCII BCD format where 3-1 axis value ToV octa value, PoD or 1 and flag the state of the tip microswitch.

## INTERFACING THE BITPAD

I have used an RS232 Bitpad connected to a 2VTP 6800 microcomputer via a serial interface at Port 0. The baud rate and stop bits of the Bitpad should, of course, correspond to that of the interface. Connectors are used to separate each block of coordinate and flag data and the string is terminated with a carriage return. The format is identical to the keyboard input expected in response to a basic "input" character as in documentation with the Bitpad only the I/O vector is

SVTBUG has to be changed - from Port 1 to Port 0. This is done by a "POKE" statement to alter the contents of \$A00B (\$0971 decimal) from 04 to 00. This alters the port address from \$8004 to \$8000.

Directly accessing the Blipad from your Basic program is this easier because that only the point code can be used: it generates one set of co-ordinate data when the stylus is depressed, the other codes produce strings of data and these will not be acceptable. So machine code subroutines are necessary utilising SVTBUG INKEY input routines and detecting the carriage return to separate the coordinate pairs and flags. However for any purpose the point code is all that is needed e.g. selecting options on a menu or specifying specific points on a curve.

At the end of any access to Port 0 the I/O vector should be reset to Port 1 so the keyboard can be used for debugging the program during development. The routines are as follows:

SELECT POINT CODE

This is done once at the start of your program unless you intend to change codes while the program is running, in which case it should be called a subroutine.

```
POKE (40971,0) REM SELECT PORT 0 I/O
PRINT "P" REM P code pad to point code
```

```
POKE (40971,4) REM I/O to Port 1
```

As we are working in Basic the port addresses have to be in decimal unless your Basic allows hex characters.

INPUT OF DATA FROM BITPAD

Having selected Point code a General routine is needed to get data from the pad. One is given below.

```
POKE (40971,0) REM VOIO Port 0.
```

```
INPUT X,Y,P REM x,y for input
```

```
POKE (40971,4) REM I/O back to Port 1.
```

Then a few simple Basic commands allow the Blipad to be accessed and data obtained for a program to operate on.

DATA ENTRY USING THE BITPAD

One example is the analysis of multiple choice questionnaires where the answers are indicated by ticks in the appropriate boxes. The form is placed against reference marks so the Blipad so that the locations of the answer boxes are defined. One approach, which ensures that your program will always respond in a predictable manner, is to divide the area or areas within which the answer boxes lie into the elements of a basic two dimensional array which I will call P(Y,X): see fig. 1. On entry to the program this array is filled with 1's and then specific locations are set with numbers in ascending order (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100,101,102,103,104,105,106,107,108,109,110,111,112,113,114,115,116,117,118,119,120,121,122,123,124,125,126,127,128,129,130,131,132,133,134,135,136,137,138,139,140,141,142,143,144,145,146,147,148,149,150,151,152,153,154,155,156,157,158,159,160,161,162,163,164,165,166,167,168,169,170,171,172,173,174,175,176,177,178,179,180,181,182,183,184,185,186,187,188,189,190,191,192,193,194,195,196,197,198,199,200,201,202,203,204,205,206,207,208,209,210,211,212,213,214,215,216,217,218,219,220,221,222,223,224,225,226,227,228,229,230,231,232,233,234,235,236,237,238,239,240,241,242,243,244,245,246,247,248,249,250,251,252,253,254,255,256,257,258,259,260,261,262,263,264,265,266,267,268,269,270,271,272,273,274,275,276,277,278,279,280,281,282,283,284,285,286,287,288,289,290,291,292,293,294,295,296,297,298,299,300,301,302,303,304,305,306,307,308,309,310,311,312,313,314,315,316,317,318,319,320,321,322,323,324,325,326,327,328,329,330,331,332,333,334,335,336,337,338,339,340,341,342,343,344,345,346,347,348,349,350,351,352,353,354,355,356,357,358,359,360,361,362,363,364,365,366,367,368,369,370,371,372,373,374,375,376,377,378,379,380,381,382,383,384,385,386,387,388,389,390,391,392,393,394,395,396,397,398,399,400,401,402,403,404,405,406,407,408,409,410,411,412,413,414,415,416,417,418,419,420,421,422,423,424,425,426,427,428,429,430,431,432,433,434,435,436,437,438,439,440,441,442,443,444,445,446,447,448,449,450,451,452,453,454,455,456,457,458,459,460,461,462,463,464,465,466,467,468,469,470,471,472,473,474,475,476,477,478,479,480,481,482,483,484,485,486,487,488,489,490,491,492,493,494,495,496,497,498,499,500,501,502,503,504,505,506,507,508,509,510,511,512,513,514,515,516,517,518,519,520,521,522,523,524,525,526,527,528,529,530,531,532,533,534,535,536,537,538,539,540,541,542,543,544,545,546,547,548,549,550,551,552,553,554,555,556,557,558,559,560,561,562,563,564,565,566,567,568,569,570,571,572,573,574,575,576,577,578,579,580,581,582,583,584,585,586,587,588,589,590,591,592,593,594,595,596,597,598,599,600,601,602,603,604,605,606,607,608,609,610,611,612,613,614,615,616,617,618,619,620,621,622,623,624,625,626,627,628,629,630,631,632,633,634,635,636,637,638,639,640,641,642,643,644,645,646,647,648,649,650,651,652,653,654,655,656,657,658,659,660,661,662,663,664,665,666,667,668,669,670,671,672,673,674,675,676,677,678,679,680,681,682,683,684,685,686,687,688,689,690,691,692,693,694,695,696,697,698,699,700,701,702,703,704,705,706,707,708,709,710,711,712,713,714,715,716,717,718,719,720,721,722,723,724,725,726,727,728,729,730,731,732,733,734,735,736,737,738,739,740,741,742,743,744,745,746,747,748,749,750,751,752,753,754,755,756,757,758,759,760,761,762,763,764,765,766,767,768,769,770,771,772,773,774,775,776,777,778,779,780,781,782,783,784,785,786,787,788,789,790,791,792,793,794,795,796,797,798,799,800,801,802,803,804,805,806,807,808,809,810,811,812,813,814,815,816,817,818,819,820,821,822,823,824,825,826,827,828,829,830,831,832,833,834,835,836,837,838,839,840,841,842,843,844,845,846,847,848,849,850,851,852,853,854,855,856,857,858,859,860,861,862,863,864,865,866,867,868,869,870,871,872,873,874,875,876,877,878,879,880,881,882,883,884,885,886,887,888,889,890,891,892,893,894,895,896,897,898,899,900,901,902,903,904,905,906,907,908,909,910,911,912,913,914,915,916,917,918,919,920,921,922,923,924,925,926,927,928,929,930,931,932,933,934,935,936,937,938,939,940,941,942,943,944,945,946,947,948,949,950,951,952,953,954,955,956,957,958,959,960,961,962,963,964,965,966,967,968,969,970,971,972,973,974,975,976,977,978,979,980,981,982,983,984,985,986,987,988,989,990,991,992,993,994,995,996,997,998,999,1000,1001,1002,1003,1004,1005,1006,1007,1008,1009,1010,1011,1012,1013,1014,1015,1016,1017,1018,1019,1020,1021,1022,1023,1024,1025,1026,1027,1028,1029,1030,1031,1032,1033,1034,1035,1036,1037,1038,1039,1040,1041,1042,1043,1044,1045,1046,1047,1048,1049,1050,1051,1052,1053,1054,1055,1056,1057,1058,1059,1060,1061,1062,1063,1064,1065,1066,1067,1068,1069,1070,1071,1072,1073,1074,1075,1076,1077,1078,1079,1080,1081,1082,1083,1084,1085,1086,1087,1088,1089,1090,1091,1092,1093,1094,1095,1096,1097,1098,1099,1100,1101,1102,1103,1104,1105,1106,1107,1108,1109,1110,1111,1112,1113,1114,1115,1116,1117,1118,1119,1120,1121,1122,1123,1124,1125,1126,1127,1128,1129,1130,1131,1132,1133,1134,1135,1136,1137,1138,1139,1140,1141,1142,1143,1144,1145,1146,1147,1148,1149,1150,1151,1152,1153,1154,1155,1156,1157,1158,1159,1160,1161,1162,1163,1164,1165,1166,1167,1168,1169,1170,1171,1172,1173,1174,1175,1176,1177,1178,1179,1180,1181,1182,1183,1184,1185,1186,1187,1188,1189,1190,1191,1192,1193,1194,1195,1196,1197,1198,1199,1200,1201,1202,1203,1204,1205,1206,1207,1208,1209,1210,1211,1212,1213,1214,1215,1216,1217,1218,1219,1220,1221,1222,1223,1224,1225,1226,1227,1228,1229,1230,1231,1232,1233,1234,1235,1236,1237,1238,1239,1240,1241,1242,1243,1244,1245,1246,1247,1248,1249,1250,1251,1252,1253,1254,1255,1256,1257,1258,1259,1260,1261,1262,1263,1264,1265,1266,1267,1268,1269,1270,1271,1272,1273,1274,1275,1276,1277,1278,1279,1280,1281,1282,1283,1284,1285,1286,1287,1288,1289,1290,1291,1292,1293,1294,1295,1296,1297,1298,1299,1300,1301,1302,1303,1304,1305,1306,1307,1308,1309,1310,1311,1312,1313,1314,1315,1316,1317,1318,1319,1320,1321,1322,1323,1324,1325,1326,1327,1328,1329,1330,1331,1332,1333,1334,1335,1336,1337,1338,1339,1340,1341,1342,1343,1344,1345,1346,1347,1348,1349,1350,1351,1352,1353,1354,1355,1356,1357,1358,1359,1360,1361,1362,1363,1364,1365,1366,1367,1368,1369,1370,1371,1372,1373,1374,1375,1376,1377,1378,1379,1380,1381,1382,1383,1384,1385,1386,1387,1388,1389,1390,1391,1392,1393,1394,1395,1396,1397,1398,1399,1400,1401,1402,1403,1404,1405,1406,1407,1408,1409,1410,1411,1412,1413,1414,1415,1416,1417,1418,1419,1420,1421,1422,1423,1424,1425,1426,1427,1428,1429,1430,1431,1432,1433,1434,1435,1436,1437,1438,1439,1440,1441,1442,1443,1444,1445,1446,1447,1448,1449,1450,1451,1452,1453,1454,1455,1456,1457,1458,1459,1460,1461,1462,1463,1464,1465,1466,1467,1468,1469,1470,1471,1472,1473,1474,1475,1476,1477,1478,1479,1480,1481,1482,1483,1484,1485,1486,1487,1488,1489,1490,1491,1492,1493,1494,1495,1496,1497,1498,1499,1500,1501,1502,1503,1504,1505,1506,1507,1508,1509,1510,1511,1512,1513,1514,1515,1516,1517,1518,1519,1520,1521,1522,1523,1524,1525,1526,1527,1528,1529,1530,1531,1532,1533,1534,1535,1536,1537,1538,1539,1540,1541,1542,1543,1544,1545,1546,1547,1548,1549,1550,1551,1552,1553,1554,1555,1556,1557,1558,1559,1560,1561,1562,1563,1564,1565,1566,1567,1568,1569,1570,1571,1572,1573,1574,1575,1576,1577,1578,1579,1580,1581,1582,1583,1584,1585,1586,1587,1588,1589,1590,1591,1592,1593,1594,1595,1596,1597,1598,1599,1600,1601,1602,1603,1604,1605,1606,1607,1608,1609,1610,1611,1612,1613,1614,1615,1616,1617,1618,1619,1620,1621,1622,1623,1624,1625,1626,1627,1628,1629,1630,1631,1632,1633,1634,1635,1636,1637,1638,1639,1640,1641,1642,1643,1644,1645,1646,1647,1648,1649,1650,1651,1652,1653,1654,1655,1656,1657,1658,1659,1660,1661,1662,1663,1664,1665,1666,1667,1668,1669,1670,1671,1672,1673,1674,1675,1676,1677,1678,1679,1680,1681,1682,1683,1684,1685,1686,1687,1688,1689,1690,1691,1692,1693,1694,1695,1696,1697,1698,1699,1700,1701,1702,1703,1704,1705,1706,1707,1708,1709,1710,1711,1712,1713,1714,1715,1716,1717,1718,1719,1720,1721,1722,1723,1724,1725,1726,1727,1728,1729,1730,1731,1732,1733,1734,1735,1736,1737,1738,1739,1740,1741,1742,1743,1744,1745,1746,1747,1748,1749,1750,1751,1752,1753,1754,1755,1756,1757,1758,1759,1760,1761,1762,1763,1764,1765,1766,1767,1768,1769,1770,1771,1772,1773,1774,1775,1776,1777,1778,1779,1780,1781,1782,1783,1784,1785,1786,1787,1788,1789,1790,1791,1792,1793,1794,1795,1796,1797,1798,1799,1800,1801,1802,1803,1804,1805,1806,1807,1808,1809,1810,1811,1812,1813,1814,1815,1816,1817,1818,1819,1820,1821,1822,1823,1824,1825,1826,1827,1828,1829,1830,1831,1832,1833,1834,1835,1836,1837,1838,1839,1840,1841,1842,1843,1844,1845,1846,1847,1848,1849,1850,1851,1852,1853,1854,1855,1856,1857,1858,1859,1860,1861,1862,1863,1864,1865,1866,1867,1868,1869,1870,1871,1872,1873,1874,1875,1876,1877,1878,1879,1880,1881,1882,1883,1884,1885,1886,1887,1888,1889,1890,1891,1892,1893,1894,1895,1896,1897,1898,1899,1900,1901,1902,1903,1904,1905,1906,1907,1908,1909,1910,1911,1912,1913,1914,1915,1916,1917,1918,1919,1920,1921,1922,1923,1924,1925,1926,1927,1928,1929,1930,1931,1932,1933,1934,1935,1936,1937,1938,1939,1940,1941,1942,1943,1944,1945,1946,1947,1948,1949,1950,1951,1952,1953,1954,1955,1956,1957,1958,1959,1960,1961,1962,1963,1964,1965,1966,1967,1968,1969,1970,1971,1972,1973,1974,1975,1976,1977,1978,1979,1980,1981,1982,1983,1984,1985,1986,1987,1988,1989,1990,1991,1992,1993,1994,1995,1996,1997,1998,1999,2000,2001,2002,2003,2004,2005,2006,2007,2008,2009,2010,2011,2012,2013,2014,2015,2016,2017,2018,2019,2020,2021,2022,2023,2024,2025,2026,2027,2028,2029,2030,2031,2032,2033,2034,2035,2036,2037,2038,2039,2040,2041,2042,2043,2044,2045,2046,2047,2048,2049,2050,2051,2052,2053,2054,2055,2056,2057,2058,2059,2060,2061,2062,2063,2064,2065,2066,2067,2068,2069,2070,2071,2072,2073,2074,2075,2076,2077,2078,2079,2080,2081,2082,2083,2084,2085,2086,2087,2088,2089,2090,2091,2092,2093,2094,2095,2096,2097,2098,2099,2100,2101,2102,2103,2104,2105,2106,2107,2108,2109,2110,2111,2112,2113,2114,2115,2116,2117,2118,2119,2120,2121,2122,2123,2124,2125,2126,2127,2128,2129,2130,2131,2132,2133,2134,2135,2136,2137,2138,2139,2140,2141,2142,2143,2144,2145,2146,2147,2148,2149,2150,2151,2152,2153,2154,2155,2156,2157,2158,2159,2160,2161,2162,2163,2164,2165,2166,2167,2168,2169,2170,2171,2172,2173,2174,2175,2176,2177,2178,2179,2180,2181,2182,2183,2184,2185,2186,2187,2188,2189,2190,2191,2192,2193,2194,2195,2196,2197,2198,2199,2200,2201,2202,2203,2204,2205,2206,2207,2208,2209,2210,2211,2212,2213,2214,2215,2216,2217,2218,2219,2220,2221,2222,2223,2224,2225,2226,2227,2228,2229,2230,2231,2232,2233,2234,2235,2236,2237,2238,2239,2240,2241,2242,2243,2244,2245,2246,2247,2248,2249,2250,2251,2252,2253,2254,2255,2256,2257,2258,2259,2260,2261,2262,2263,2264,2265,2266,2267,2268,2269,2270,2271,2272,2273,2274,2275,2276,2277,2278,2279,2280,2281,2282,2283,2284,2285,2286,2287,2288,2289,2290,2291,2292,2293,2294,2295,2296,2297,2298,2299,2300,2301,2302,2303,2304,2305,2306,2307,2308,2309,2310,2311,2312,2313,2314,2315,2316,2317,2318,2319,2320,2321,2322,2323,2324,2325,2326,2327,2328,2329,2330,2331,2332,2333,2334,2335,2336,2337,2338,2339,2340,2341,2342,2343,2344,2345,2346,2347,2348,2349,2350,2351,2352,2353,2354,2355,2356,2357,2358,2359,2360,2361,2362,2363,2364,2365,2366,2367,2368,2369,2370,2371,2372,2373,2374,2375,2376,2377,2378,2379,2380,2381,2382,2383,2384,2385,2386,2387,2388,2389,2390,2391,2392,2393,2394,2395,2396,2397,2398,2399,2400,2401,2402,2403,2404,2405,2406,2407,2408,2409,2410,2411,2412,2413,2414,2415,2416,2417,2418,2419,2420,2421,2422,2423,2424,2425,2426,2427,2428,2429,2430,2431,2432,2433,2434,2435,2436,2437,2438,2439,2440,2441,2442,2443,2444,2445,2446,2447,2448,2449,2450,2451,2452,2453,2454,2455,2456,2457,2458,2459,2460,2461,2462,2463,2464,2465,2466,2467,2468,2469,2470,2471,2472,2473,2474,2475,247

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1450 rem -----
1460 rem convert DEC to HEX
1470 rem q = no. of 16's in byte
1480 rem v = no. to convert
1490 rem v$ = HEX answer
1500 rem -----
1510 q=Int(v/16)
1520 v$=c$(q)+c$(v-q*16)
1530 return
1540 rem -----
1550 rem position cursor at specified screen position
1570 rem ac = screen column (1-80)
1580 rem ar = screen row (1-24)
1590 rem -----
1600 print chr$(27);"_0";chr$(ar*31);chr$(ac*31);
1610 return
1620 rem -----
1630 rem display ASCII at end of line
1640 rem -----
1650 print tab(51);
1660 for x=b+1 to b+c
1670 if v(x)>31 and v(x)<127 then print chr$(v(x)); else print
    '.';
1680 next x
1690 if c=16 goto 1690
1700 for s=c+1 to 16
1710 print ' ';
1720 next x
1730 return
1740 rem -----
1750 rem print header
1760 rem -----
1770 gosub 6600 : rem clear screen
1780 print ' 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F'
1790 print
1800 for x=0 to 15
1810 v=x : gosub 1450
1820 print v$; ' '
1830 next x
1840 print
1850 print 'COMMAND';
1860 return
1870 rem -----
1880 rem enter commands & perform the appropriate action
1890 rem -----
1900 ar=21 : ac=9 : gosub 1550
1910 gosub 5000 : rem erase to end of line
1920 c$=inch$(0) : rem get a command
1930 if c$='L' or c$='R' goto 1930
1940 if c$='C' or c$='C' goto 1940
1950 if c$='Q' or c$='Q' goto 1950
1960 if c$=chr$(8) goto 1960 : rem left shift
1970 if c$=chr$(31) goto 1970 : rem up shift
1980 if c$=chr$(12) goto 1980 : rem right shift
1990 if c$=chr$(22) goto 1990 : rem down shift
2000 if c$=chr$(30) goto 1990 : rem home
2010 if c$='N' or c$='M' goto 2010 : rem next block
2020 if c$='P' or c$='P' goto 2020 : rem previous block
2030 if c$='S' or c$='S' goto 2030 : rem save buffer & changes
2040 if c$='I' or c$='I' goto 2040 : rem list instructions
2050 goto 1990 : rem test for HEX & enter if yes
2060 e$='You have entered an invalid command. Type I for
instructions.' : gosub 5000
2070 goto 1990
2080 rem process file name
2090 if f$<>' then close 1
2100 input #0, ' : f$
2110 open old f$ as 1
2120 position #1,0,mode 2, response mb : rem max. bytes in file
2130 close 1
2140 open f$ as 1 size 1
2150 dim #1, f$(mb-1)-1
2160 s#
2170 f1$=f1$ : rem save file name
2180 e$='The specified file has been loaded successfully.' :
gosub 5000
2190 rem display current hex block
2200 gosub 8500 : if f=0 then goto 1999
2210 gosub 1000
2220 c$=1 : c1=1 : gosub 7000 : rem display highlight byte
2230 e$='The current block has been displayed.' : gosub 5000
2240 goto 1999
2250 rem quit
2260 gosub 6600 : rem clear screen
2270 return
2280 rem left shift
2290 c1=c1-1
2300 gosub 7000
2310 goto 1999
2320 rem up shift
2330 c1=c1-16
2340 goto 1999
2350 rem right shift
2360 c1=c1+1
2370 goto 1999
2380 rem down shift
2390 c1=c1+16
2400 goto 1999
2410 rem home
2420 c1=1
2430 goto 1999
2440 rem read next block
2450 if s+256 <= mb-1 then s=s+256 else s=0 : 'There is no next
block, - BOTTOM OF FILE -' : gosub 5000 : goto 1999
2460 gosub 1000
2470 c$=1 : c1=1 : gosub 7000 : rem display highlight byte
2480 e$='Next block has been displayed.' : gosub 5000
2490 goto 1999
2500 rem read previous block
2510 if s-256 >= 0 then s=s-256 else s=0 : 'There is no previous
block, - TOP OF FILE -' : gosub 5000 : goto 1999
2520 gosub 1000
2530 c$=1 : c1=1 : gosub 7000 : rem display highlight byte
2540 e$='Previous block has been displayed.' : gosub 5000
2550 goto 1999
2560 rem -----
2570 rem enter character check for HEX, if not return to
2580 rem command mode. Once two HEX digits entered convert to
2590 rem integer and save in buffer. Move to next buffer
location.
2600 rem -----
2610 gosub 8500 : if f=0 goto 1999
2620 for x=0 to 21
2630 if c$(x) goto 2630
2640 next x
2650 goto 1999
2660 rem -----
2670 c$=inch$(0)
2680 for x=0 to 21
2690 if c$(x) goto 2690
2700 next x
2710 rem -----
2720 h$=h$+c$
2730 v(c$)-hex(h$)
2740 gosub 8000 : rem display entered HEX
2750 c1=c1+1
2760 gosub 7000 : rem shift highlight byte
2770 e$='Buffer has been modified and byte displayed.' : gosub
5000
2780 goto 1999
2790 rem -----
2800 rem save current buffer onto file
2810 rem -----
2820 e$='Please WAIT the buffer is being saved.' : gosub 5000
2830 gosub 8500 : if f=0 goto 1999
2840 for x=0 to s+b-1
2850 f$(x)=chr$(v(x+1))
2860 next x
2870 e$='Current buffer has been saved into the file.' : gosub
5000
2880 goto 1999
2890 rem -----
2900 rem print instructions
2910 rem -----
2920 gosub 6600 : rem clear screen
2930 print 'COMMAND';
2940 print '-----'
2950 print
2960 print 'c or C - Display current file block. If it is
necessarily to delete'
2970 print ' changes from buffer this command can be
used. It will fill'
2980 print ' buffer from the file and overwrite
changes.'
2990 print 'i or I - Display instructions and pointer
information.'
3000 print 'L or L - Load and display the first block of a
file.'
3010 print ' eg. 1 nothing.b'
3020 print 'n or N - Display the next block of the file.'
3030 print 'p or P - Display the previous block of a file.'
3040 print 'q or Q - Quit program and return to operating
system.'
3050 print 's or S - Save current buffer and changes into the
file.'
3060 print ' This command must be used to modify any
file.'
3070 print
3080 print ' Arrow keys can be used to move cursor to
any buffer position.'
3090 print
3100 print ' Enter changes as HEX characters. Change
occurs at cursor position.'
3110 print
3120 print 'File name - ' : f1$, 'Start of buffer in file - ' : s+1
3130 print 'Cursor position in file - ' : a+c$, 'Cursor position in
buffer - ' : c$
3140 print
3150 print tab(30); 'Hit any key to continue.'
3160 rem -----
3170 c$=inch$(0)
3180 gosub 2000 : rem print header
3190 gosub 1970 : rem display buffer
3200 goto 1999
3210 rem -----
3220 rem display current buffer
3230 rem -----
3240 if z=0 goto 1998
3250 z1=z : b1=b : c1=c : rem save counters
3260 b=0
3270 print
3280 for s=1 to z1
3290 if z=s+1 then c=c+1 else c=16
3300 gosub 1250 : rem display HEX
3310 gosub 1620 : rem display ASCII
3320 print
3330 b=b+c
3340 next s
3350 if z<16 then gosub 1240
3360 c1=c$ : gosub 7000
3370 return
3380 rem -----
3390 rem print error message in e$

```

```

5004 rem -----
5010 gosub 5700 : rem erase status line & position cursor
5020 gosub 6000 : rem start flashing
5030 print e$;
5040 gosub 6500 : rem stop flashing
5050 return
5600 rem -----
5602 rem erase to end of line from current position
5604 rem -----
5610 print chr$(27);'T';
5620 return
5700 rem -----
5702 rem erase status line
5704 rem -----
5710 sr=23 : sc=15 : gosub 1550
5720 gosub 5600
5730 return
5800 rem -----
5802 rem print status message
5804 rem -----
5810 gosub 5700 : rem erase status line & position cursor
5820 print e$;
5830 return
6000 rem -----
6002 rem start flashing
6004 rem -----
6010 print chr$(27);'C4';
6020 return
6500 rem -----
6502 rem stop flashing
6504 rem -----
6510 print chr$(27);'C0';
6520 return

6600 rem -----
6602 rem clear screen
6604 rem -----
6610 print chr$(26)
6620 return
7000 rem -----
7010 rem shift highlight byte
7015 rem cl - new position of highlight
7020 rem c0 - current position of highlight
7022 rem -----
7034 if cl>b then print chr$(7) : return
7036 if cl<l then print chr$(7) : return
7040 gosub 7400 : rem remove highlight at c0
7045 c0=cl
7050 gosub 7500 : rem set " " c0
7060 return
7400 rem remove highlight at c0
7410 tm=int(c0/16.0001)
7420 sr=4+tm : sc=2+3*(c0-tm*16) : gosub 1550
7430 gosub 6500
7440 return
7500 rem set highlight at c0
7510 tm=int(c0/16.0001)
7514 sr=4+tm : sc=5+3*(c0-tm*16) : gosub 1550
7516 gosub 6500
7520 sr=4+tm : sc=2+3*(c0-tm*16) : gosub 1550
7530 gosub 6000
7540 return
8000 rem -----
8010 rem Display modified byte at v(c0)
8020 rem -----
8030 v=v(c0) : gosub 1450 : rem convert to HEX
8040 tm=int(c0/16.0001)
8050 sr=4+tm : sc=3+3*(c0-tm*16) : gosub 1550
8060 print v$;
8062 sr=4+tm : sc=3+3*(c0-tm*16) : gosub 1550
8064 if v(c0)>31 and v(c0)<127 then print chr$(v(c0)); else
print ' ';
8070 return
8500 rem -----
8502 rem check for file
8504 rem -----
8510 if f1$<>' ' then f=1 : return
8520 e$='No file has been specified. Use "I" command.' : gosub
5000
8530 f=0
8540 return
9000 rem -----
9010 rem error handling routine
9020 rem -----
9030 if err=4 then e$='No such file.' : gosub 5000 : goto 9100
9040 if err=9 then e$='Read error on file.' : gosub 5000 : goto
9100
9050 if err=10 then e$='Write error on file.' : gosub 5000 :
goto 9100
9060 if err=11 then e$='File is write protected.' : gosub 5000 :
goto 9100
9070 if err=12 then e$='Permission flags do not allow access to
file.' : gosub 5000 : goto 9100
9080 if err=34 then e$='Typing CTRL C will not help you.' :
gosub 5000 : goto 9100
9090 on error goto 0

9100 f1$=f1$ : rem restore file name
9103 if f1$=' ' goto 9130
9105 if err=3020 or err=3750 or err=3959 then close 1
9107 if err=3959 then gosub 2000 : gosub 3970
9110 open f1$ as 1 size 1
9120 dim $1.f$(mb-1)=1
9130 resume 3099

```

# intecNews

Press Release No. 53

QUIX AND THE INTEC 256

The INTEC 256 and QUIX Operation System were designed by the same team to produce a computer which will run software written for UNIX- at high speed and low cost. It supports up to five terminals and a printer with a choice of disk storage options ranging from 20-117 KBYTE (formatted) and a main memory of 256K or 512K.

The INTEC 256 system comes complete with a five and a quarter inch floppy disk drive and an optional 40 KBYTE tape back-up unit, both built into the chassis.

The whole system is attractively packaged in a matte black box measuring 4 1/2 inches high by 17 inches wide by 12 3/4 inches deep.

An outstanding set of basic software packages are included with every INTEC 256. These are UNIPLEX Word Processing, SCULPTOR (Formerly SAGE by N.P.D.) Language, and DATABASE Management System, enhanced printer spooling, and asynchronous modem communications.

See our ad in this journal for further details.

\*\*\*

For further information, contact: Intec Equipment Inc.  
1003 Thomas Buch Memorial Highway  
Pennsauken, New Jersey 08110  
Phone: Toll-free: 1-800-257-1460  
(In New Jersey, phone 609-663-2212)

UNIX is a trademark of Bell Laboratories.

SEPTEMBER, 1984

PAGE 1 of 1

The enclosed modification procedures are for running the General Version of TSC FLEX 9 on CREATIVE MICRO SYSTEMS hardware.

Assumptions: AIC1A's located at 0E3C0, and 0E3C8  
CMS SYSHON 09 firmware

The following procedures make it possible to run the FLEX 9 Dist Operating System with a minimum of software modifications, while retaining compatibility with popular Pico software products, carried by many 486A vendors.

At the initiation of this project, CMS did not have a 5" controller based on WESTERN DIGITAL firmware, which would be compatible with the Flex DOS. The SOUTHEASTERN DDC-14 was selected since it was compatible. Also it was available in kit, assembled, or bare board.

The CMS P418 Proto board was selected for the interface to the Escorcion Bus. The first step was to locate the controller board on the CMS P418 to insure sufficient clearance for the decoding devices and insertion into the mother board. This position worked out to be, even with the top edge and 3/4" from the right edge. Nylon spacers were used to maintain a 3/8" separation.

The decoding devices and the PIA, used for Generating SMIS interrupts were located on the remaining clear space of the P418 proto board. The circuitry used is shown on schematics 1 and 11.

Hardware modifications to the DDC-14: Remove voltage regulators VR 1 & 2. Jumper pins 1 and 3 on same. Place the E2 shorting plug in the 00 position. All other shorting plug positions depend on disk configuration and recommended default positions, explained in the DDC-14 manual. Wiring is point to point and sockets are used for the decoding hardware. The CMS P418 Proto board has decoding hardware available and could be used to simplify most of the decoding problem. If the P418 is used, the schematic would have to be altered accordingly. If a controller other than the DDC-14 is used insure that the pin numbering is the same, it not make the necessary adjustments. There is no standardization of 5538 bus functions.

Software modifications: These are compatible with the CMS in house SYSHON firmware, which is preferred to the DEBUSEP (MICROWARE) because it is easier to enter and change data to memory.

Console I/O Driver Package:

03E0.....E70D	0377.....B7 E3C0
03E8.....E713	0378.....B0 E3C0
03F3.....F042	0382.....B6 E3C1
0378.....04 03	038C.....B6 E3C0
0372.....B7 E3C1	0375.....B7 E3C1
0379.....06 16	0378.....B6 E3C0

There are no modifications required for the Disk Driver package.

General Procedure: Once you have your Console and Disk Driver routines punched into memory, the next step is to enter the Quick Loader routines, (Appendix D, Page 53 of the adaptation guide). Next jump to 0E100, and assuming that you have your Pico Master in Drive 0 you should receive the three blue-sign prompt, and you are ready to follow the procedures outlined on page 25, section 7, of the adaptation guide.



Avoiding pit-fall: When you write a command, using the Append Utility, make sure that you add a Transfer Address to the last binary file in the string. You add this Transfer or Starting address when you create that particular binary file, so you have to think ahead. If you go on, the DOS will respond with a "CANT TRANSFER".

Headnote: This program allows you to initiate an unprogrammed disk so that it can be used by the Fries DOS. The best way to get this program operational is to use the Editor and make the changes listed below. Once the changes are in place then use the Assembler to create your NEWDISK.BIN. Both the Editor and the Assembler are included in the Fries Package. The Manuals are also included.

For 8'disk use as is.  
For 5'disk...BEC...SWKEND IS 13EA...SWKEND  
2F0B...SWKEND IS 1FD4...SWKEND  
MAXTRK IS 23 FOR 35 TRACKS  
MAXTRK IS 28 FOR 48 TRACKS

COMPLETE ALL OTHER CHANGES REFERENCED ON PAGE 98, APPENDIX G

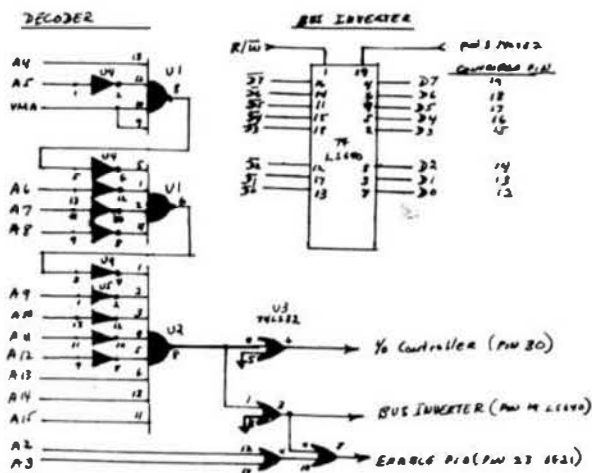
Don't forget to add the Transfer Address (9818B) to the Loader binary file on page 97, Appendix G of the adaptation guide.

Final Steps: You will have to put the program on page 98 Appendix G into firmware if you wish to boot from the console. A jump to the selected address is all that is needed; otherwise you will have to input the boot prior to using Fries each time you power on.

Implementing the printing, and adding options: It is necessary to adapt PRINT.SYS Drivers for these functions. The software is located on page 3.9 of the Fries Users Manual. Simply change the ACIA addresses: E01C to E3CB and E01D to E3CP. That is all there is to it. If you wish to tie the printer to a parallel interface, the software for this is located on page 3.7 of the of the same manual. Change the PIA addresses as required. THAT IS ALL THERE IS TO IT!

*Anthony J. Gasbarre*  
Anthony J. Gasbarre  
23 Center St.  
Sullivan, N.H. 03445  
Tel: (603) 847-9797

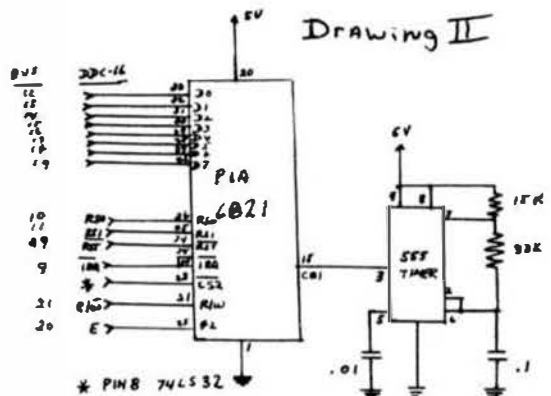
Drawing I



DECODER, & EOIX - DATA BUS INVERTOR

U1 74LS20  
U2 74LS70  
U3 74LS70

Drawing II



SWI3 GENERATOR, 1200 BAUD  
FOR SPOOLING IMPLEMENTATION



Worlestone Laboratories (Reg. Office)  
North Walsingham, Norfolk NR28 9SA  
Tel: 06921 404088  
Telex: 975548 WINDRUSH G  
MAAPCON approved consultants

'68 Micro Journal  
Attn: Don Williams  
5900 Cassandra Smith  
PO Box 849  
Hixson, TN 37343  
U.S.A.

Your Ref: WCB/hb 174 Date: 23 Aug 84

Dear Don,

With the recent introduction of our new model Eprom Programmer (UPROM II) into the U.S. market the old model has been discontinued. I would like to clarify the situation in regard to U.S. support of these products by our distributor, GIMIX.

#### OLD MODEL

FLEX, SSB DOS, MDOS and OS9 Level 1/2 version 1.1 supported. OS9 Level 1/2 version 1.2 is NOT supported. Any queries on this product should be sent to us.

#### NEW MODEL

1. 6809 FLEX is available directly from us or GIMIX.
2. 6809 SSB DOS is available directly from us ONLY.
3. 6809 MDOS is available directly from us ONLY.
4. OS9 Level 1/2 version 1.2 software is available directly from us or GIMIX.

Since GIMIX only have FLEX and OS9 systems of their own manufacture customers should NOT expect GIMIX to supply or support any other versions of the software. NOR should customers with hardware other than that manufactured by GIMIX expect any support with difficulties arising out of their hardware or software configuration. GIMIX are not in a position to verify any complaints with our product on anything other than GIMIX hardware. We suggest that owners of non-GIMIX hardware contact us if they are not prepared to accept this situation.

We have tested our OS9 software on GIMIX I, II, and III systems and guarantee the software performs as advertised with this hardware. It is simply not practical for us to test OS9 software in all of the hardware environments available. If the software fails to perform the customer must sort it out as it is impossible for us to do so without identical hardware! To this end the assembly language source of the device driver and descriptor are supplied.

Yours faithfully,

*William C. Dickinson*  
William C. Dickinson  
DIRECTOR

Here is a review of an exciting new 68000 co-processor.

It only works with a Z80 based CP/M 2.2 host, but, even if you bought a new Kaypro II for just this use, it is still the most cost effective 68000 system I'm aware of. CP/M 68k is not the most sophisticated operating system around, but it is quite usable.

I hope this review will encourage some of your readers to consider the 68000 as an alternative to the 6809. It does seem to be the 'coming thing' in microprocessors. Now if HSC could only get OS-9 working on it (this was mentioned in a letter in your June issue, but seems rather far fetched)...

Please note the address change for my subscription.

FROM: DR. MARK BOYD  
ST MARY OF THE PLAINS COLLEGE  
BOUCE CITY KS 67801  
TO: DR. MARK BOYD  
BOX 83, MEJ  
WICHITA KS 67208

Thank You,

*Mark J. Boyd*  
Mark J. Boyd

#### CD - 1668, A 68000 Co-processor Board for CP/M

As a devoted user ( since 1975 ) of Motorola microprocessors, I hated to go over to a Z80 based CP/M system when I needed a portable computer. Reality forced me to get a Kaypro, but my heart stayed with my 6809 OS-9 system. Finally I have found an esthetically satisfying use for my 'utility' CP/M computer. It makes an admirable host for a 68000 co-processor board.

Now don't get me wrong, my Kaypro II is by far the best buy in bundled computer hardware and software around. I have no complaints about the available CP/M 80 software either. Both are far better than their 68xx(x) counterparts. The Z80 may even be a good microcomputer, but it's architecture turns me off. It's just not a pleasure to work with, especially when compared to the 6809.

The 68000 family of microcomputers has the elegant architecture I've come to expect from Motorola. My problem with 68000 systems has been price. Most real 68000 systems seem to be trying to replace small minicomputers, and sell in a similar price range. The single board 68000 systems I've seen at under \$1000 are too limited to be useful except for educational purposes. After considerable looking, I finally found a useful 68000 system that I can afford. The heart of this system is a co-processor board known as the CD 1668. It is sold by HSC INC., 262 E. Main Street, Frankfort, New York 13340. Their telephone number is (315) 893-7426. They also have a 8086/8186 co-processor, the CD 1686. Either board works with a wide range of Z80 based, CP/M 2.2 systems.

I have had my CD 1668 for a bit over two weeks now, and have worked with it essentially full time for that period. I'm quite pleased with it. I should also note that HSC was very nice to deal with. I placed my order by phone early in May. They shipped, and billed my VISA card, when they said they would. The salesperson I talked with was reasonably knowledgeable and got answers for my more technical questions quickly. My overall impression of HSC, based on that call and the documentation they wrote for the system, is quite favorable.

A co-processor board has a big price advantage over a full computer system. All it has to provide is a CPU, memory, and one relatively simple I/O channel. The host computer acts as an I/O processor

controlling an extensive set of I/O devices. If the host is a mass produced utility computer system, the result is quite cost effective because of the low cost of the host hardware.

In the case of the Kaypro II / CD 1668 combination, a 256K 6MHz 68000 system with parity checking memory, two double density mini floppy drives, a good 80 X 24 display, a good keyboard, a printer port, a RS 232 modem port, and a bunch of software including the "standard" CP/M 8 bit stuff ( BASICs, word processing, spread sheets, simple DBMS, and some other utility programs ) and CP/M 68K ( which includes a decent C compiler, an assembler, a linker, an archive (library manager) program, and the standard CP/M utilities ) can be purchased for about \$2100 including the Kaypro (\$1295). For about \$700 more, the 68000 system memory can be expanded to 768K. All the 68000 memory is available as a RAM disk for the CP/M 80 system. Any increment of 128K of this memory can also be used as RAM disk under CP/M 68K. Since both processors use CP/M, the file systems and the console command interpreters are completely compatible. This allows easy switching back and forth between the CPU's, and the use of CP/M 80 utility software with CP/M 68K files. It's not OS-9, but it is a very usable system.

This is sounding a bit too much like an ad. However, the only drawbacks I've discovered in this system are pretty minor. A caveat here, I've only been using the system for a short time, maybe 60 hrs of actual computer time.

Perhaps the most serious drawback: the 10 1/2 inch thing is about 1/2 inch too big too fit conveniently inside the Kaypro. I had to mount it on the outside, at least for now. It requires less than 1 amp at 5 V, which the Kaypro provides without any problem. I am not sure how it would do with the fully expanded memory. Remember this is a general purpose

co-processor which will work with any Z80 based system running CP/M 2.2. Also, for non hardware types, HSC sells a separate case and power supply for the co-processor board.

The Kaypro II drives (191 K) are usable, especially in combination with the 128 K RAM disk, but a Kaypro 4 (380 K) would be better. I have had some minor problems with compatibility between CP/M 80 and CP/M 68K, when using CP/M 80 initialized disks with CP/M 68K, the system tracks get written over by data files. This is a minor problem since those tracks are only used when you cold boot the system, warm

boots of CP/M 68K don't use the disk. I just keep a separate boot disk and use it only for booting or setting up the RAM disk under CP/M 80. Cold booting is always to CP/M 80, then a program is run to load CP/M 68K and set up the I/O interface. It takes less than half a minute to be up and running CP/M 68K.

To the casual user CP/M 68K is CP/M 80 2.2 with some minor enhancements. For the more serious user, the enhancements are quite significant in that system calls are provided to take advantage of the much more sophisticated 68000 processor. The Digital Research C provided with the operating system does not support floating point, but it is quite powerful and does follow Kernighan and Ritchie. It also provides many of the features of UNIX C, where they make sense in a CP/M 68K environment, or where they can be simulated. I do not have much experience with C, but, after working with it for a week, this does appear to be good implementation. The entire CP/M 68K system seems to be designed around the UNIX C environment, a very good way to go with the 68000.

The software documentation supplied with the system is good but minimal. Several sections assume explicitly that you have other reference books and/or manuals available. This is better than an implicit assumption, but frustrating since these references are neither supplied nor readily available to most users. The hardware documentation is almost nonexistent. The installation is simple and well documented. The overall quality of the documentation is good, but the coverage is barely adequate for an experienced user. There is no tutorial material nor any examples for any of the software other than the installation package. This system is not suitable for an inexperienced user. Familiarity with CP/M and C is assumed. Familiarity with the 68000 is also useful in reading the documentation. The system documentation was designed for hardware neophytes with extensive software backgrounds.

The software supplied with my system came on two IBM format DSDD minifloppies. It was a pain to get it down loaded to Kaypro II format. I think there was a misunderstanding when I ordered, since I requested standard eight inch CP/M. HSC did offer to download to Kaypro II format, but for a fifty dollar charge.

A source code package for HSC's part of the software is mentioned, but price and availability information are not given. HSC says that the supplied source code is set up for their own assemblers. This means a further expense or hassle to make use of it.

I haven't run many benchmarks for performance, but a 6 MHz 68000 with 200 ns. memory should provide more than adequate performance by microcomputer standards ( i.e. blow away anything else near this price range ). The C version of the sieve algorithm, from BYTE, does ten iterations in about ten seconds. This is several times as fast as the best 8 bit times I've seen for this algorithm. The C compiler uses 3 passes plus the assembly pass and the linker pass. The entire process can be controlled by supplied submit files and takes about two minutes, using the RAM disk for the linker and C library, for small C programs. The output of the linker is a relocatable object file. The archive program is used to build and maintain libraries of functions created as object code files. My overall impression is that CP/M 68K will be a very good program development environment once I get it all figured out. Better documentation would make the figuring out process a bit less time consuming. It's major limitation is the CP/M file structure, but the ability to use my existing file utility software is quite valuable. It is just a single user, single task environment, but it is a decent one.

In conclusion, the CO 1668 co-processor system is a nice piece of work. In conjunction with a Z80 based CP/M 2.2 system, it provides a powerful 68000 system at a very reasonable price. It is expandable, portable in the sense that it could be transferred to other Z80 based systems, and easy to install. It comes with a good software package but weak software documentation. The hardware looks good and works well, but is totally undocumented. Overall, I'm very pleased to have such a nice system for so small a price.

Mark J. Boyd  
Box 83, Wichita State University  
Wichita, KS 67208

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is a short program for the Bit Bucket. It is a FLEX utility which allows the user to send text directly from the keyboard to the printer. It is called QPRINT. It accepts a line of text from the keyboard using FLEX's INBUFF routine. When "Return" is pressed, QPRINT sends it to the printer. I use this command to do such things as type short notes or address envelopes. INBUFF allows the line of text to be edited using the "Backspace" and "Delete" keys before it is sent to the printer.

QPRINT uses FLEX's POUT vector at SCCE4 (or SACE4) for the printing. Because of this, it does not turn off pause like the P command does. The program assumes that the printer drivers have already been loaded into memory. If this is not the case in your system, QPRINT can be APPENDED onto your printer driver so that both will load at the same time.

I hope that the program is of interest to your readers.

Sincerely,

*Ken Drexler*  
Kenneth Drexler

311 Wilson Way  
Larkspur, California 94939

```

*****
*
* QUICK PRINT UTILITY
*
* THIS PROGRAM SENDS TEXT TO THE PRINTER
* ONE LINE AT A TIME. THE INPUT DATA IS
* OBTAINED THROUGH INBUFF AND THE "BACKSPACE"
* AND "DELETE" KEYS CAN BE USED FOR EDITING.
*
* DATE: AUGUST 1, 1984
*
* FILE NAME: QPRINT.SBC
*
*****
*
* SYSTEM EQUATE
*
C000 FLEX EQU 0C000 FLEX 9
* USE $A000 FOR FLEX 2
*
* EQUATES
CCE4 POUT EQU FLEX-80CE4
CC00 PIM1 EQU FLEX-80CC0
CC09 PSFLAG EQU FLEX-80C09 PAUSE CONTROL
CC14 SUPPNT EQU FLEX-80C14
CD1B INBUFF EQU FLEX-80D1B
CD1C PSTRNG EQU FLEX-80D1C
CD24 PCRLF EQU FLEX-80D24
CD03 WARMS EQU FLEX-80D03
CD1B PUTCHR EQU FLEX-80C1B
*
** PROGRAM
C100 ORG FLEX-8100
C100 20 02 QPRINT BRA START
C102 04 VER FCB 10 VERSION 1.0
*
* VARIABLE
C103 PSAVE RMB 1
*
C104 06 CC09 START LDA PSFLAG TURN OFF PAUSE
C107 07 C103 STA STA
C10A 7F CC09 CLR CLR
C10D 0D CC00 JSR PINIT INITIALIZE PRINTER
C110 0D CD24 JSR PCALF
C113 0E C155 LDX #MSG0 DISPLAY MESSAGE
C116 0D CD1E JSR PSTRNG
C119 0D CE24 JSR PCRLF
C11C 0D CD24 STY1 JSR PCRLF END LINE
C11F 06 23 LDA #0 DISPLAY PROMPT
C121 0D CD1B JSR PUTCHR
C124 0D CD1E JSR PUTCHR
C127 0D CD1E JSR PUTCHR
C12A 0D CD1B JSR INBUFF
*
C12D 0D 0B JSR PRLINE PRINT LINE
C12F 26 2D BNE STR1 NOT EQUAL, CONTINUE
C131 04 C103 L A PSAVE RESTORE PAUSE
C134 07 CC09 STA PSFLAG
C137 7E CD03 JMP WARMS
*
C13A 0E CC14 PRLINE LDA SUPPNT POINT AT LINE BUFFER
C13D 06 80 LDA L A GET FIRST CHARACTER
C13F 01 0D CMA #0D CR?
C141 27 12 BEQ PBLING YES, EXIT
C143 0D CC24 PR IN1 JSR POUT NO, PRINT IT
C146 06 80 LDA L A GET NEXT CHARACTER

```

```

C148 01 00 CMA #0D CR?
C14A 26 7F BNE PRLIN1 NO, PRINT IT
C14C 0D CC24 JSR POUT YES, PRINT CR, LF
C14F 06 0B DA #0A
C151 0D CC14 JSR POUT
C154 0D C155 JSR TSTA
C155 39 PBLING PTS SET "NOT EQUAL"
                                EXIT
C156 20 20 31 55 MSC1 FCC / QUICK PRINT/
C163 0D 0A 0C 0A FCB $D,$A,$C,$A
C167 05 76 65 72 FCC /Every line is sent to the printer after/
C18E 0D 0A FCB $D,$A
C190 27 52 45 54 FCC /"RETURN" is pressed. Exit to FLEX by /
C1B5 0D 0A FCB $D,$A
C1B7 70 72 65 73 FCC /pressing "RETURN" at the start of a line./
C1E0 0D 0A FCB $D,$A
C1E2 20 20 20 7C FCC /
C221 04 FCB 4
                                ZND QPRINT

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

## GENERAL MICRO SYSTEMS INCORPORATED

For more information:  
George Riggs (714)625-5475

NEW PRODUCT RELEASE

PHOTO ATTACHED

SBC USES 16- OR 8-BIT CPU, HAS

65K MEMORY, MULTIPLE I/O PORTS

ONTARIO, Calif., July 31, 1984 -- An advanced single board computer with a choice of 16- or 8-bit CPUs, 65K of on-board memory, two serial and two parallel ports, an IEEE-488 port, and an Opto 22 port that can be used to directly control industrial relay modules, is now available from General Micro Systems, Inc.

The new module, GMS6507, is the only EXORbus module to offer the 68008 16-bit microprocessor. It also can be supplied with 8-bit 6809, Z80, 6502 or 9900 CPUs in 1 or 2 MHz. Thus, with the 68008, memory operation can be high speed, 8 and 10 MHz, synchronous. The advanced features can also allow the module to be part of a 2-board 6809 development system. And, systems on the 8-bit data bus can be upgraded to 16-bit when desired.

The module offers extensive digital I/O capability. It includes two full RS232C ports with 15 programmable baud rates. Two parallel printer ports, or one printer and 10 additional user programmable I/O lines, are also offered. A GPIB, or IEEE-488 controller/talker/listener port is also supplied. Additionally, twenty bidirectionally fully buffered I/O lines are each capable of driving 30 mA, for use with industrial I/O modules such as the Opto 22.

65K of on-board, high-speed, static CMOS memory may eliminate any need for additional external memory, reducing system board count.

The design allows 68000 memory operation with no wait cycles for faster transfer rates. The memory section provides eight byte-wide sockets which can accept 2K x 8 or 8K x 8 devices, high speed static RAM or ROM/EPROM. Each device may be disabled via DIP switches or the entire memory may be disabled under software control, to allow bootstrapping.

The 6809, Z80, 6502 and 9900 microprocessors are used as part of CPU/translator sets, which can be plugged into the same socket that accepts the 68008. Extended addressing (A16-A19) and bank switching signals (VUA, VXA) are generated when the CPU/translators are used.

Another translator is available to plug into the GPIB socket. This supplies a real time, battery-backed, clock/calendar/RAH in place of the IEEE-488 port. A precision threshold detector and write

protect circuitry is also included.

Priority level interrupt logic eases programming. Power-on reset with an additional reset switch at the top of the module, provides an additional safety feature.

I/O and memory on the CMS6507 are switch selectable for base address, with enable/disable. All address, data and control signals are buffered with tri-state buffers with DMA capability.

The module is fully socketed, over voltage and reverse polarity protected. Burned-in for 72 hours, it carries a full year warranty.

The 6-inch by 9.75-inch CMS6507 advanced single board computer is priced at \$685 in single piece quantity (less memory devices). Delivery is from stock, standard OEM discounts are offered.

General Micro Systems Inc., located at 1320 Chaffey Ct., Ontario CA 91762, designs and manufactures a family of microcomputer modules and systems directly compatible with the Motorola Micromodule, EXORcise, and Rockwell System 65/AIM 65 busses, plus associated software.

Gerald O'Keefe  
2446 Watson Ct.  
Palo Alto, CA 94303  
(415) 856-0300

#### CLOCK - MX80 PRINTER INTERFACE

I enclose a schematic and program listing of a clock/MX80 printer interface card I designed. The clock circuit uses the National Semiconductor clock chip MM5817. If have it link in to FLEX™ during bootup, so it displays date and time automatically. The FORMAT for the display is shown below:

DATE THURSDAY SEP 24 1981

TIME 8:49:52

The printer interface to the MX80 printer (which I find is a very good printer for the money) uses 'Centronics' parallel standard, so this should work with other printers also. The software samples the error line from the printer, if an error is found it's printed on the CRT terminal. Printer errors are listed below.

OUT OF PAPER

NOT SELECTED

PRINTER POWER OFF

Larry O'Keefe

```
1 ***** OPT PAS
2 ***** EPSON RE-80 PRINTER DRIVER
3 ***** ORSEP SUB 31 B
4 *****
5 *****
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406 40th Street  
New Orleans, LA 70124  
(504) 568-6130

Don Williams  
'68' Micro Journal  
3018 Hamill Road  
P.O. Box 849  
Hixson, Tennessee 37343

Dear Don:

I've read with interest the various data encryption articles that have appeared in your magazine. Enciphering a file is useless if the original file is left on a disk. Flex 2.0 users are undoubtedly aware that a "deleted" file remains on a disk until its space is reclaimed by the file management system. For those Flex 2.0 users that do not want to encipher files in place, the following program will replace a file with spaces before deleting it:

```
1      * ZERO
2
3
4      * AUTHOR: James L. Dean
5      *          406 40th Street
6      *          New Orleans, La. 70124
7
8      * When this source is assembled as
9      * 1.ZERO.CMD, the FLEX 2.0 command
10     * "1.ZERO d:filename.ext"
11     * will delete the file "d:filename.ext"
12     * after replacing its contents with
13     * spaces.
14
15     * EQUATES.
16
17     AR40      FCB      EQU      %AB40      FILE CONTROL BLOCK.
18     B406      FMS      EQU      %B406      FILE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CALL.
19     AD03      WARMRS   EQU      %AD03      WARMSTART ENTRY POINT.
20     AD15      GETCHR   EQU      %AD15      GET CHARACTER.
21     AD18      PUTCHR   EQU      %AD18      PUT CHARACTER.
22     AD2D      GETFIL   EQU      %AD2D      GET FILE SPECIFICATION.
23     AD33      SETEXT   EQU      %AD33      SET EXTENSION.
24     AD3F      RPTERR   EQU      %AD3F      REPORT ERROR.
25
26     A100      ORG      %A100
27
28
29
30
31     * MAIN STARTS HERE.
32
33     A100 20 02    LOW    BNA    LOW1
```

2

August 24, 1980

```
34     A102 01      VM      FCB      1      VERSION NUMBER.
35
36
37     * DATA.
38
39     A103 04      DBYTE   FCB      4      NUMBER OF BYTE IN SECTOR
40     *          *          *          CURRENTLY BEING
41     *          *          *          PROCESSED.
42
43
44     * ***** PROGRAM EXECUTION STARTS HERE *****
45
46     A104 CE AD 40    LOW1    LDX      OCB
47
48
49     * OPEN FILE FOR UPDATE.
50
51     A107 BD AD 2D      JSR      GETFIL      GET THE FILE NAME.
52     A10A 25 0E          BCS      DSKERR
53     A10C B6 03          LDA      A 3      SET FOR UPDATE.
54     A10E A7 00          STA      A 0,X     SAVE IN FILE CONTROL BLOCK.
55     A110 B6 01          LDA      A 1
56     A112 BD AD 33      JSR      SETEXT     SET DEFAULT EXT.
57     A115 BD B4 06      JSR      FMS       CALL FILE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.
58     A118 27 06          BEQ      LOW2     ERRORS?
59     A11A BD AD 3F      DSKERR   JSR      RPTERR REPORT ERROR.
60     A11D 7E AD 03      JMP      WARMRS    RETURN TO FLEX.
61     A120 B6 FF          LDA      A %FF
62     A122 A7 38          STA      A 59,X
63
64
65     * LOOP TO ZERO FILE.
66
67     A124 B6 00          LOWS     LDA      A 0
68     A126 A7 00          SIA      A 0,X
69     A128 BD B4 06      JSR      FMS       GET CHARACTER TO BE ZEROED.
70     A12A 27 03          BEQ      OKAY7
71     A12D 7E A1 69      JMP      LOW7
72     A130 B6 A1 03      OKAY7    LDA      A DBYTE
73     A133 A7 23          STA      A 35,X
74     A135 B6 12          LDA      A 18
75     A137 A7 00          STA      A 0,X
76     A139 B6 20          LDA      A 32
77     A13B BD B4 06      JSR      FMS       WRITE SPACE.
78     A13E 27 0A          BEQ      NEXT2
79     A140 BD AD 3F      JSR      RPTERR
80     A143 7E A1 72      JMP      NEXT3
81     A146 B6 A1 03      NEXT2    LDA      A DBYTE
82     A149 B6 01          ADD      A 1
83     A14B B1 00          CMP      A 0
84     A14D 26 14          BNE      PTRON
85     A14F CE AB 40          LDX      OCB
86     A152 B6 0A          LDA      A 10
87     A154 A7 00          STA      A 0,X
88     A156 BD B4 06      JSR      FMS       BE SURE SECTOR WRITTEN.
```

```
89     A159 27 06          BEQ      WRTOK
90     A15B BD AD 3F      JSR      RPTERR
91     A15E 7E AD 03      JMP      WARMRS
92     A161 B6 04          LDA      A 4
93     A163 B7 A1 03      PTRON    STA      A DBYTE
94     A166 7E A1 24      JMP      LOWS
95
96     * END OF LOOP TO ZERO FILE.
97
98
99     * CLOSE FILE.
100
101     A169 A6 01          LOW7     LDA      A 1,X     CHECK ERROR.
102     A16B B1 08          CMP      A 8      IS IT EOF?
103     A16D 27 03          BEQ      NEXT3
104     A16F BD AD 3F      JSR      RPTERR
105     A172 B6 04          NEXT3    LDA      A 4
106     A174 A7 00          STA      A 0,X
107     A176 BD B4 06      JSR      FMS
108     A179 27 03          BEQ      NEXT4
109     A17B BD AD 3F      JSR      RPTERR
110
111     * DELETE FILE.
112
113
114     A17E B6 0C          NEXT4    LDA      A 12
115     A180 A7 00          STA      A 0,X
116     A182 BD B4 06      JSR      FMS
117     A185 27 03          BEQ      EDJ
118     A187 BD AD 3F      JSR      RPTERR
119     A18A 7E AD 03      EDJ      JMP      WARMRS    RETURN TO FLEX.
120
121
122     END      LOW
```

I hope that this program solves a security problem for some of your readers.

Sincerely,

*James L. Dean*  
James L. Dean

'68' Micro Journal  
3018 Hamill Rd.,  
PO Box 849  
Hixson, Tennessee  
37343 U.S.A.

#### SECTOR.CMD for FLEX 09

Dear Editor:-

Enclosed program is a revised version of Bill Knight's SECTOR which appeared in June 1980 issue. Original was modified to fit to FLEX 09 on 5 inch disk and to be position independent.

Reader may have to change following values depending on his system construction.

C10F 01 .. highest drive number in HEX

C11A 28 .. maximum track number in HEX

C125 0A .. highest sector number in HEX

He could disable checking function by replacing these values with FFs.

Many thanks to Bill for his fine work.

Yours truly,

*K. Mitadera*  
K. Mitadera  
126 Sedgefield,  
Pointe Claire,  
Quebec CANADA  
H9R 1N5

\*\*\*\*\*

\* SECTOR.CMD \*

\*\*\*\*\*

\* THIS PROGRAM ALLOWS ANY SECTOR  
\* ON A DISK TO BE EXAMINED.

\* THIS IS A REVISED VERSION OF  
\* BILL KNIGHT'S PROGRAM  
\* APPEARED IN JUNE 1980 ISSUE OF 68 MICRO.  
\* FOR FLEX 9.

\* TYPE "SECTOR,(DRIVE),(TRACK),(SECTOR)".  
\* ALL NUMBERS IN HEX.

\* EQUATES

CD3C OUTHTEX EQU %CD3C  
CD42 BETHEX EQU %CD42

```

CD24 PCALF EQU $CD24
CD18 PUTCHR EQU $CD18
CD83 WARMS EQU $CD83
CD3F RPTERR EQU $CD3F
CD1E PSTERR EQU $CD1E

D406 FMS EQU $D406

CB40 FCB EQU $CB40

```

\* ACTUAL PROGRAM STARTS HERE  
\*\*\*\*\*

```

C100 20 04      SBC 1      ORG 0      #C100
C100 20 04      SBC 1      ORG 0      SBC 1

C102 01      UN 1      FCB 1      VERSION #1
C103 00      LINE 0      FCB 0      LINE COUNTER
C104 0000      EDP 0      FCB 0      TEMPORARY ADDRESS STORAGE

C106 0E      SBC 1      LDX 0      POINT TO FCB
C107 17 0000      LBSR 0      MEXIN 0      GET DRIVE #
C108 20 73      BLT 0      DRIVER 0      VALID DRIVE?
C109 01 01      CMPA 0      01      HIGHEST #1 (TWO-DRIVE)
C110 2E 6F      BBT 0      DRIVER 0
C111 07 03      STA 0      3,X      STORE IT IN FCB-DRIVE #
C112 17 0001      LBSR 0      MEXIN 0      GET TRACK #
C113 20 6E      BLT 0      TRACK 0      VALID TRACK?
C114 01 27      CMPA 0      039      HIGHEST #39 (5" DISK)
C115 2E 6A      BGT 0      TRKERR 0
C116 07 00 1E      STA 0      30,X      STORE IT IN FCB-TRACK #
C117 20 76      BSR 0      MEXIN 0      GET SECTOR #
C118 2F 69      BLE 0      SECTERR 0      VALID SECTOR?
C119 01 0A      CMPA 0      010      HIGHEST #10 (5" DISK)
C120 2E 65      BGT 0      SECTERR 0
C121 07 00 1F      STA 0      31,X      STORE IT IN FCB-SECTOR
C122 06 09      LDA 0      09      SET FOR READ SINGLE SECTOR
C123 07 04      STA 0      0,X
C124 00 D406      JSR 0      FMS      OPEN FILE
C125 26 44      BNE 0      DSKERR 0      ERROR?
C126 00 CD24      JSR 0      PCALF
C127 BE C85E      LDX 0      #FCB+30      OUTPUT TRACK #

C134 80 60      BSR 0      MEXOUT 0
C135 0E C85F      LDX 0      #FCB+31      OUTPUT SECTOR #
C136 80 68      BSR 0      MEXOUT 0
C137 80 68      JSR 0      PCALF
C138 80 CD24      JSR 0      #FCB+6
C139 80 C880      LDX 0      016      POINT TO DATA
C140 80 10      LDA 0      016      SET LINE COUNT
C141 80 0C 07      STA 0      LINE.PCR
C142 C6 10      SBC 2      016      SET COLUMN COUNT
C143 AF 0C 03      STX 0      TEMP.PCR      SAVE X
C144 80 56      BSR 0      MEXOUT 0      OUTPUT DATA BYTE
C145 30 01      LEAX 0      1,X      POINT TO NEXT DATA
C146 54 F9      DECB 0      SECT3      DECREMENT COLUMN COUNT
C147 26 0C A9      LDX 0      10,X      END OF THE LINE?
C148 AE 18      LDB 0      016      BEGINNINGS OF THE LINE
C149 C6 00 00      LDA 0      0,X      RESEY COLUMN COUNT
C150 06 00 7F      ANDA 0      #7F      POINT TO DATA
C151 01 1F      CMPA 0      #7F      MASK MSB
C152 22 02      BHI 0      SECT5      CONTROL CHR?
C153 06 3F      LDA 0      05F      REPLACE IT BY UNDERSCORE
C154 80 CD10      JSR 0      PUTCHR      OUTPUT IT
C155 26 F0      DECB 0      SECT4      DECREMENT COLUMN COUNT
C156 80 CD24      JSR 0      PCALF      END OF THE LINE?
C157 6A 0C 90      DEC 0      LINE.PCR      DECREMENT LINE COUNT
C158 3 26 07      BNE 0      SECT2      END OF THE SECTOR?
C159 7E CD83      JMP 0      WARMS

```

#### \* ERROR ROUTINE

```

C170 30 80 0033      DSKERR LEAX 0      ERR1.PCR POINT TO MESSAGE
C171 00 CD1E      REPORT JSR 0      PSTRNG
C172 20 F4      BRA 0      EXIT
C173 30 80 003C      DRVERR LEAX 0      ERR2.PCR POINT TO MESSAGE
C174 20 F3      REPORT JSR 0      REPORT
C175 30 80 0048      TRKERR LEAX 0      ERR3.PCR POINT TO MESSAGE
C176 20 EF      REPORT JSR 0      REPORT
C177 30 80 005A      SBCYBRR LEAX 0      ERR4.PCR POINT TO MESSAGE
C178 20 E9      RPTERR JSR 0      RPTERR
C179 0C CD3F      RPTERR LDX 0      RPTERR
C180 20 DD      EXIT

```

#### \* MEX INPUT

```

C190 34 10      MEXIN 0      PSMS X      SAVE X
C191 80 CD42      JSR 0      GETMEX GET MEX DATA
C192 25 F4      BCS 0      RDRERR ERROR?
C193 AF 80 FF61      STX 0      TEMP.PCR STORE MEX DATA IN TEMP
C194 06 80 FF5E      LDA 0      TEMP+1.PCR LOAD ITS LSB
C195 33 90      PULS 0      X.PC      RETURN

```

#### \* MEX OUTPUT

```

C1A9 80 CD3C      MEXOUT JSR 0      OUTMEX OUTPUT MEX DATA
C1AC 06 20      LDA 0      020
C1AD 7E CD10      JMP 0      PUTCHR OUTPUT A SPARE

```

#### \* ERROR STRINGS

```

C1B1 44 49 53 40      ERR1 FCC 'DISK READ ERROR'
C1B2 20 52 45 41
C1B3 44 20 45 32
C1B4 52 4F 52
C1B5 04
C1B6 49 4E 56 41      ERR2 FCB 4 'INVALID DRIVE NUMBER'
C1B7 4C 49 44 20
C1B8 44 52 49 56
C1B9 45 20 4E 55
C1BA 40 42 45 52
C1BB 04      FCB 4

```

```

C1D6 49 4E 56 41      ERR3 FCC 'INVALID TRACK NUMBER'
C1D7 4C 49 44 20
C1D8 54 52 41 43
C1D9 4B 20 4E 55
C1DA 40 42 45 52
C1DB 04
C1DC 49 4E 56 41      ERR4 FCB 4 'INVALID SECTOR NUMBER'
C1DD 4C 49 44 20
C1DE 53 45 43 54
C1DF 4F 52 20 4E
C1E0 35 40 42 45
C1E1 52
C1E2 04      FCB 4

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

#### SYMBOL TABLE:

```

DRVERR C181 DSKERR C170 ERR1 C181 ERR2 C1C1 ERR3 C106
ERR4 C1E0 EXIT C175 FCB C840 FMS D406 GETMEX CD42
MEXIN C190 MEXOUT C1A9 LINE C183 OUTMEX CD3C PCALF CD24
PSTRNG CD1E PUTCHR CD10 RDRERR C193 REPORT C17C RPTERR CD3F
SBCY C180 SECT1 C186 SECT2 C14C SECT3 C151 SBCY4 C150
SECT5 C167 SECTOR C180 TEMP C184 TRKERR C187 UN C182
WARMS CD83

```

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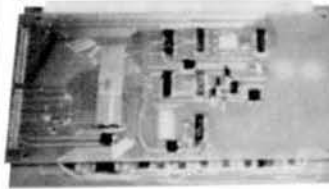
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#### Availability Legend

F = FLEX, CCF = Color Computer FLEX  
U = OS-9, CCF = Color Computer OS-9  
U = UniFLEX  
CCD = Color Computer Disk  
CCT = Color Computer Tape

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**MAIL MERGE**  
Greatly extends the power and flexibility of **STRIKE-AS**. Allows Multiple Text files to be printed out as one large document. Provides for merging information into the Text File during printing (such as different names and addresses), etc.

F, CCF, O - \$145.00  
U - \$195.00

# Southeast Media

## SPELLB "Computer Dictionary" OVER 120,000 words!

No more "Let your fingers do the walking through the Dictionary" while you are entering Text with your favorite Editor or Word Processor. **SPELLB** is more than just "another Spelling Checker"; it allows you to look up a word from within your Editor or Word Processor so that you **KNOW** it is right WHEN YOU TYPE IT (in with the **SPH.ORD** Utility (which operates in the **FLEX** Utility Space). Yes, it **ALSO** allows you to check and update the Text after you are finished; along with allowing you to **ADD WORDS** to the Dictionary, "Flag" questionable words in the Text for evaluation later, "View a word in context" before changing or ignoring, etc. **SPELLB** first checks a "Common Word Dictionary", then the normal Dictionary, then a "Personal Word List", and finally, any "Special Word List" you may have specified. **SPELLB** also allows the use of **Small Disk Storage** systems.

F and CCF - \$129.95

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**SPELL**  
Fast Computer Dictionary -- allows directly changing the Text File, adding words to the dictionary, etc. 75,000 words in less than 400 sectors.

F, CCF, OS/9 - \$125.00  
U - \$175.00

## DATA BASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

### Manchester Applied Database Systems XIMS

Possibly one of the most powerful Database Management Systems available, this machine language program is small enough to operate on a single **5 1/4"** disk, yet provides the speed of M.L. and power limited only by the user's imagination. This DMS supports Relational, Sequential, Hierarchical, and Random Access File Structures, and has Virtual Memory capabilities for those giant Data Bases. **XIMS Level I** provides a functional "entry level" System which provides for defining a Data Base, entering and changing the Data, and producing Reports. **XIMS Level II** adds the **POWERFUL "QUERY" facility** which uses an English Language Command Structure in manipulating the Data to create new File Structures, Sort, Select, Calculate, etc. **XIMS Level III** adds several special "Utilities" which provide additional ease of working with the various structures, changing System Parameters, etc.

**XIMS Level I** - F & CCF - \$129.95  
**XIMS Level II** - F & CCF - \$199.95  
**XIMS Level III** - F & CCF - \$289.95  
**XIMS System Manual only** - \$24.95

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**REPORTING DBMS**  
An **XBASIC**, Menu Driven, DBMS with "Built-In" Audit Tracking, Extremely Powerful Report & Format Capabilities, etc. This **TIME** Proven DBMS will become the "Work Horse" of your Software Base.

F and CCF \$295.00  
U \$395.00

## ACCOUNTING PACKAGES

Great Plains Computer Co. and Universal Data Research, Inc. both have Business Packages written in **TSC XBASIC** for **FLEX**, **CoCo FLEX**, and **UnifLEX** ----

\*\*\*\*\*



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\*OS9 is a trademark of Microware

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## Computer Systems Consultants

### BASIC UTILITY PROGRAMS

Ten BASIC Programs to:

A **BASIC Resequencer** with **EXTRAS** over "RENUM"; works with ALL Versions of **FLEX BASIC** AND the Precompiler, checks for missing label definitions, processes Disk to Disk instead of in Memory.

**Compare, Merge, or Generate Updates** between two BASIC Programs, check BASIC Sequence Numbers, compare two unsequenced files, and 5 Programs for establishing a Master Directory of several Disks, and sorting, selecting, updating, and printing paginated listings of these files.

A **BASIC Cross-Reference** Program, written in Assembly Language, which provides an X-Ref Listing of the Variables and Reserved Words in **TSC BASIC**, **XBASIC**, and **PRECOMPILER BASIC** Programs. ALL Utilities include Source (either BASIC or Source Code). An EXCELLENT Value!

F and CCF - \$25.00  
UnifLEX - \$50.00

## Computer Systems Consultants

### FULL SCREEN INVENTORY/MRP

The Full Screen Inventory System provides a means of maintaining small inventories. Using a linked, keyed random file structure based upon the item field, it keeps the file in alphabetical order for easier inquiry. With the **FIND** command, the user may locate and/or print all records matching on partial or complete item, description, vendor, or attributes. Items in backorder or below minimum stock levels may be located and/or printed thru the same process. Printed output may be produced in item or vendor order. A materials requirement planning (MRP) capability for manufacturing environments is included to allow the maintenance and analysis of Hierarchical assemblies of items in the inventory file. It requires **TSC's Extended BASIC**.

F and CCF - \$100.00. U - \$150.00

## The Virginia Company

### Bizpack

**BIZPACK** is used for storing accounting, numeric, and financial data which can then be used for planning, budgeting, forecasting, analyzing, etc. While "Electronic Spreadsheets" are extremely useful in many situations, **BIZPACK** excels in businesses where there are numerous expense columns, revenue sources, significant business indicators, large numbers, erratic week-to-week and month-to-month fluctuations, etc. **BIZPACK** helps determine statistical relationships, establish trend lines, "smooths" data via moving averages, analyze seasonal data, adjusts for inflation, logs data in Statistics or Column functions, plots data, etc. **BIZPACK** is oriented toward time series analysis of businesses. The Program displays information on the screen in Columns of Information with each Row conforming to a defined Period or Time (weeks, months, years, etc.), and is very easy to use (data is easy to enter, change, and modify; commands can be renamed to suit the users requirements; unlimited ability to create specialized commands using common BASIC Statements; etc.). Requires **TSC's Extended BASIC**.

F and CCF - \$135.00  
with Source - \$250.00

\*\*\* SPECIAL \*\*\*

Purchase **XBASIC** and **BIZPACK** together for \$221.50  
-- a Savings of \$13.50 --

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**CoCo OS-9™ FLEX™**  
**SOFTWARE**

\*\*\* SPECIAL \*\*\*  
 Purchase KIMAP and SUPERK together for \$221.50  
 — a Savings of \$13.50 —

#### Computer Systems Consultants

**TABULA RASA SPREADSHEET**  
 TABULA RASA is similar to DESKTOP/PLAN and provides for the generation and maintenance of tabular computation schemes often used for analysis of business, sales, and economic scenarios. Its menu-driven user interface provides these capabilities even to those users with no programming experience. Its extensive report-generation capabilities allow the user to generate professional results with minimum effort. It requires TSC's Extended BASIC.

F and CCF = \$100.00. U = \$125.00

#### Computer Systems Center

**DYNACALC**  
 THE Electronic Spread Sheet for 6809 Computer Systems. An extremely POWERFUL Business Tool, this Program will find an unlimited number of "non-business" applications, also (for example, a Full Junior College Electronics Curriculum was set up using DYNACALC). Advanced features like "Table Lookup" make Income Tax work easy; Column or Row Sorting for numerous applications; etc. Completely "Memory Resident", Machine Language, this Program is FAST. Provides STANDARD FLEX Text File output for use with BASIC, Word Processors, Pascal, "C", etc. Also available for Data-Comp and FHL FLEX systems using the 50 x 24 Displays.

F and SPECIAL DCF = \$200.00  
 CoCo DOS = \$99.95  
 6 = \$250.00  
 U = \$237.00

### ODDS & ENDS

#### Computer Systems Consultants

**FULL SCREEN FORMS DISPLAY**  
 This package supports any Serial Terminal with cursor control of Memory-Mapped Video Displays. The package substantially extends the screen input/output capabilities of TSC's Extended BASIC programs by providing a simple, table-driven method of describing and using full screen displays. These table entries are easy to set up and maintain, and are normally stored on disk and read as required. A simple, interactive means of generating the forms and the data field definitions is provided.

F and CCF = \$50.00. U = \$75.00

#### Computer Systems Consultants

**FULL SCREEN MAILING LIST**  
 The Full Screen Mailing List System provides a means of maintaining simple mailing lists. Using a random fill structure based on the first character of the name field, it maintains the file in alphabetical order for easier inquiry. With the FIND command, the user may locate all records matching on partial or complete name, city, state, zip, or attributes. Printed listings and output to labels may also be produced on the same selective basis. It requires TSC's Extended BASIC.

F and CCF = \$100.00. U = \$110.00

### COLOR COMPUTER SOFTWARE

#### Stearns Electronics

##### FORTH

Intrigued by FORTH? Here is a FORTH package tailored to the Color Computer! This package is supplied on Tape, with instructions for transferring it to disk if you wish. Written primarily in machine language, it's **speed is unparalleled**. A full Semigraphic-8 Editor is provided, along with "goodies" like Graphics and Sound Commands, Printer Commands, Auto-Repeat and Control Keys, etc. If you are interested in learning FORTH, a Trace Feature is provided which is invaluable. If you are a FORTH Pro, this package provides CPU carry Flag accessibility, Fast Task Multiplexing, Clean Interrupt Handling, etc. (Or; you won't "out grow" the Basic capabilities of this implementation). Combine this package with Leo Brodie's EXCELLENT Book "Starting FORTH", and you will be a FORTH Expert before you know it (and have a lot of fun doing it!).

Color Computer TAPE = \$58.95

#### Custom Software Engineering, Inc.

**Color Computer GRAPHIC SCREEN PAINT Program**  
 Dumps any "PHODE" Screen to the Printer with the BASIC User Function. Shift the Printout Left or Right or Reverse Print (Dark for Light Screen and Vice Versa). All Programs on Tape.  
 GEPR for R.S. LP-VII/VIII & CMP 100/200/400 \$7.95  
 GEPR for Epson w/ Grafix and Grafix + \$9.95  
 GEPR for Gemini 10 and 15 \$9.95  
 GEPR for the Prowriter Printers \$9.95

#### Custom Software Engineering, Inc.

**DATE-O-BASE CALENDAR Program**  
 A Menu Driven **EXTENDED BASIC** Program which allows the entry of up to 12 Memos per Day, each of which may contain up to 28 Characters, for any day of the Month between the years 1700 and 2999. A **Graphic Calendar** shows which days contain Memos, and a "Key Word" Search is provided which can be output to the Screen or Printer.

**TAPE DATE-O-BASE CALENDAR**  
 (Each Tape File will hold up to 400 Memos) \$16.95  
**DISK DATE-O-BASE CALENDAR**  
 (4,000 Memos at 300/Month per Disk) \$19.95

#### Custom Software Engineering, Inc.

**That's GROWING**  
 Interested in **INTEREST** (the Money Kind)? An **EXTENDED BASIC** Program that will help you deal with numerous problems requiring interest calculations. Present Value, Rate of Return, Current Bond Yield and Rate of Return to maturity, Loan Repayment, **A m o r t i z a t i o n S c h e d u l e s**, etc.

TAPE = \$29.95

#### Custom Software Engineering, Inc.

**DISK DATA MANAGER 64K**  
 An **EXTENDED BASIC** Data Management System w/ Mach. Lang. Routines. Allows a max of 246 Chars. and 14 Fields per Record, and another Record can be linked to the first 8 Char. Field Names, up to 99 Chars. per Field. Powerful On-Screen editor for input and update, flexible output capabilities including output to Disk Files for use by other Programs. Change File Definition without re-entering the Data, Split Files, etc. Allows Multiple Field Sorts, Select on any combination of Fields, etc. An extremely **POWERFUL TOOL**: Instructions provide examples of Mailing Lists and a Financial Stock Profit and Loss Tracking System.

DISK = \$54.95

#### Custom Software Engineering, Inc.

**DISK DOUBLE ENTRY**  
 DISK **EXTENDED BASIC** Accounting Program w/ Mach. Lang. Routines. A "Traditional" Accounting Package for Small Business, Clubs, Churches, Personal Use, etc. Up to four levels of subtotals with Trial Balance, Income Statement, and Balance Sheet Reports. DDE allows up to 388 accounts and a Trial Balance of \$9,999,999.99. Transactions may be up to 14 lines long, and comments and explanations may be freely used. Accounts are traceable to the journal transaction, which may include comments. Screen reports allow review of past transactions and current balances.

DISK = \$44.95



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## ASSEMBLERS

### Southeast Media

#### ASTRUK09

A "Structured Assembler for the 6809" which requires the TSC Macro Assembler. Allows direct use of structured statements such as IF, ELSE, DO, REPEAT, etc., and provides indented level formatting of the listing so that the structure is apparent. Re. '68' Micro Journal, Sept. '83 (program was called "STASMO9"; has been renamed due to conflicts).

#### A User reports

"... I'm very pleased and am now writing almost exclusively in (ASTRUK09). I've selected it over --- for all future systems development... As (one) of my early evaluations, I rewrote a rather elaborate routine originally done in assembly. Out of the 1000 bytes of code generated, the (ASTRUK09) version used only 20 more bytes than the original. --- could not handle this program since it uses triple-precision fixed point arithmetic... I have a large body of code already written that is incompatible with --- constructs. No problem with (ASTRUK09) and the structure sure helps in understanding the logic!"

F, CCF - \$99.95

### TSC

#### Macro Assembler

The FLEX STANDARD Assembler. F,CCF \$50.00

#### Relocating Assembler w/Linking Loader

Use with many of the C and Pascal Compilers. F,CCF \$150.00

### Great Plains Comp. Co.

#### ROMAC

Relocating, Recursive-Macro Assembler and Linking Loader.

F,CCF \$120.00; w/Source \$240.00

### OmegaSoft

#### PRALLI

Relocating Assembler and Linking Loader

F,CCF \$125.00; for One Year Maint., add \$50.00

### Windrush Micro Systems

MACE, by Graham Trott.

F,CCF - \$98.00

### Computer Systems Consultants

#### SUPER SLEUTH

Computer Systems Consultants Super Sleuth is a "Time Tested", reliable, PROVEN Disassembler that has gained acceptance through out the SS-50 Bus Community as an extremely POWERFUL, INTERACTIVE, Software Tool. The Super Sleuth Software Package consists of 3 Programs; SLEUTH (the Disassembler), CHGNAME (used to globally Change Labels to a meaningful name), and XREF (a Cross Reference Generator for Source Code Files). SLEUTH will Disassemble Memory Resident 6809 Code and 6800, 6801, 6802, 6803 (the "Baby CoCo"), 6805, 6808, 6809, and 6502 (Apple, Atari, Commodore, etc.) Binary Disk Files. (See Aug. '83 '68' Micro Journal "Color Users Notes" Column for a full Review.)

Color Computer SS-50 Bus (all w/ Source)

CCO (32K Req'd)

Obj. Only \$49.00

CCF, Obj. Only \$90.00

CCF, w/Source \$99.00

CCO, Obj. Only \$50.00

F, \$99.00

U, \$100.00

O, \$101.00

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#### DISASSEMBLE +

An "easy to use", powerful Disassembler for Disk Resident 6809 and 6808 Binary Files. Allows the development of a "Control File" of various Program "Boundaries" during successive disassemblies; can use a Label File which automatically replaces a Hex location with a Label Name; includes an XREF Utility; etc. Label Files provided for Mini-FLEX, FLEX2, FLEX9, Color Computer (for use with Color FLEX Systems), etc. OS-9 Version includes special OS-9 options.

CCF, Obj. Only	\$100.00
CCO,	\$59.95
F,	\$100.00
O,	\$150.00
U,	\$300.00

## COMPILERS & DECOMPILERS

### 6809 "Structured" Assembly Lang. Compilers

#### Windrush Micro Systems

#### PL/9

By Graham Trott. A combination Editor/Compiler/Debugger, all in ONE PACKAGE; provides a totally INTERACTIVE Program Development Cycle. The Single-Pass Compiler supports large Symbol Names; Variable Types; Pointers; Control Structures (similar to 'C' or 'Pascal'); Stack, A-, B-, and D-Register manipulation; etc. The Source-Oriented Trace/Debugger provides Single Stepping, Breakpointing, etc. An excellent Software Development Tool which provides for the maximum utilization of the power of the 6809.

F, CCF - \$190.00

#### Whimsical Developments

#### WEDICAL

Need the Ease of Design and Maintainability of "Structured Programming" AND the Speed and Control of Assembly Language? Then WEDICAL was designed for you! This Single Pass, Recursive Descent Compiler provides the tool for developing simple Utilities to MAJOR Systems in Assembly Language. Supports 3 "Lex" Levels which allow one level of Procedure nesting, or more within "Modules". It is easy to develop programs written for other machines since you are working at the Assembly Language level. Features unified, user-defined I/O; produces ROMable, relocatable, recursive, re-entrant Code; Structured style and statements with Procedures and Modules; supports Byte and Double-Byte primitives with 3 types of Integers (up to 32 bit), Char and Boolean, and unlimited sized Arrays (vectors only); Interrupt handling; unlimited length Variable Names; Variable Initialization (defaults to \$00); Include "Source File" directive; Conditional compiling; direct Code insertion; control of the Stack Pointer; etc. To quote Ron Anderson in his review of WEDICAL in the Sept. '83 issue of '68' Micro Journal that, except for the lack of floats, "... I have to give this one VERY high rating, ...". It is a FAST Compiler which produces FAST Code (his "Prism" benchmark ran at 9 secs. on a 2 Mhz System).

F and CCF - \$195.00

### 'C' Compilers

#### Windrush Micro Systems

#### C Compiler

By James McCosh. Full featured C Compiler for the FLEX Operating System (lacking ONLY "bit-fields"), including an Assembler. Requires the TSC Relocating Assembler IF the user wishes to implement his own Libraries.

F and CCF - \$295.00

#### Introl

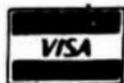
#### C Compiler

A full-featured C, streamlined for the 6809. Generates very efficient object code. Output "benchmarks" close to 199K: 68000 in 8 Bit Operations; 1.5 times faster than a 4 Mhz 286 when using a 24K 6809 System (Re. p. 43, '68' Micro Journal, May '83). Floats, etc.

F, CCF, and O - \$375.00

U - \$425.00

One Year Maint. - \$100.00



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Computer Systems Center

# ONASARE

Multi-User, Multi-Tasking with FLEX — Southeast Media is now shipping ONASARE FROM STOCK — the multi-user, multi-tasking capability of ONASARE allows FLEX users the advantages of more sophisticated and time saving computer usage without having to buy or learn a new language or Operating System syntax. ONASARE, as its name implies, allows true "time-sharing" operation under the popular FLEX operating system, and also allows each user to run two simultaneous jobs (multi-tasking); even on single-user systems. For example, while in EDIT, you can list another file or examine a directory. Or, you might look up an item in a Data Base while a Sort is in progress! ONASARE also provides some fringe benefits that will be greatly appreciated by FLEX users, including type-ahead, command line editing, and instant responses to "escapes".

ONASARE is the painless method! Use your existing Flex computer by simply adding 64K of RAM for each user and/or task. Fact is, you still use FLEX just like you always have! ONASARE is not intended as competition to Uniflex. It does not improve on the speed of FLEX, and does not offer password protection or other niceties of a full-blown multi-user system. What ONASARE does do is give FLEX users a low-cost way to use existing software in a multi-user, multi-tasking environment, so your existing FLEX versions of BASIC, XBASIC, editors, assemblers, disassemblers, sort/merge packages, word processors, compilers, ONACALC spread-sheet package, and so on are still good.

NOTE -- The initial release of ONASARE is for SMTS 8/09 Computers, but versions will also be available for other popular extended-memory (up to 1M04K) systems, such as HELIX and GMDX. A minimum of 128K of RAM will be required with ALL versions. ONASARE requires 64K of RAM for each active task; thus a 256K system could allow foreground-background operation on two terminals, or foreground-only operation on four terminals.

AVAILABLE NOW from Southeast Media - \$288.00

## AUTHORS - PROGRAMMERS

## QUALITY SOFTWARE NEEDED

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For the past several months, we at Southeast Media Division of Computer Publishing Inc. (CPI), the parent company of '68' MICRO JOURNAL and COLOR MICRO JOURNAL, have been expanding our software distribution business. Many other magazines have been doing so for years (in fact, MOST were in the Software Distribution Business BEFORE they began to publish a Magazine). Presently there are many fine examples of software that has been developed by YOU, our readers, that will never see the "light of day" due to the cost of advertising and production.

production of that exposure advertisement utilizing are decisions some ALSO from conc READ Divis Distrib Software Programs, etc

### CRASMB 16.32

6809 Cross Assembler for the 68000 CPU  
FLEX & OS-9 \$249.00

### OSM

6809 Extended Macro Assembler  
(Included with K-BASIC)  
FLEX & OS-9 \$99.00

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In the past there has been too much software offered that was not quite ready. We will strive to eliminate that element. But, right up front, we tell you only that we will do our very best; nothing more. Also, we will strive to keep cost to a bare minimum, while securing for the author a fair return in

### K-BASIC

Basic Language Compiler  
(Reviewed in Oct. 1984 68' Micro Journal)  
Includes OSM Assembler  
Works with CRASMB  
FLEX & OS-9 \$199.00

### CRASMB

6809 Cross Assembler for the following CPU types

6800-2.8	6801-3	6804	6805
6809	6811	6302	1802
8048	8080-5	Z-8	Z-80

FLEX & OS-9 \$399.00

If you will qualify under this program, please contact one of the people below. Remember, if your software has any problems or "funnies" — GET STRAIGHT BEFORE YOU CONTACT US! Also get your source code in proper shape and well commented; there is too much 99% code already floating around.

If your software is READY contact:  
Bob Ray, Don Williams, or Tom Williams

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# TEN MOST-ASKED QUESTIONS about **DYNACALC™**

## THE ELECTRONIC SPREAD-SHEET FOR 6809 COMPUTERS

---

**1. What is an electronic spread-sheet, anyway?**

Business people use spread-sheets to organize columns and rows of figures. DYNACALC simulates the operation of a spread-sheet without the mess of paper and pencil. Of course, corrections and changes are a snap. Changing any entered value causes the whole spread-sheet to be re-calculated based on the new constants. This means that you can play, 'what if?' to your heart's content.

**2. Is DYNACALC just for accountants, then?**

Not at all. DYNACALC can be used for just about any type of job. Not only numbers, but alphanumeric messages can be handled. Engineers and other technical users will love DYNACALC's sixteen-digit math and built-in scientific functions. You can build worksheets as large as 256 columns or 256 rows. There's even a built-in sort command, so you can use DYNACALC to manage small data bases — up to 256 records.

**3. What will DYNACALC do for ME?**

That's a good question. Basically the answer is that DYNACALC will let your computer do just about anything you can imagine. Ask your friends who have VisiCalc™, or a similar program, just how useful an electronic spread-sheet program can be for all types of household, business, engineering, and scientific applications. Typical uses include financial planning and budgeting, sales records, bills of material, depreciation schedules, student grade records, job costing, income tax preparation, checkbook balancing, parts inventories, and payroll. But there is no limit to what YOU can do with DYNACALC.

**4. Do I have to learn computer programming?**

NO! DYNACALC is designed to be used by non-programmers, but even a Ph.D. in Computer Science can understand it. Even experienced programmers can get jobs done many times faster with DYNACALC, compared to conventional programming. Built-in HELP messages are provided for quick reference to operating instructions.

**5. Do I have to modify my system to use DYNACALC?**

Nope. DYNACALC uses any standard 6809 configuration, so you don't have to spend money on another CPU board or waste time learning another operating system.

**6. Will DYNACALC read my existing data files?**

You bet! DYNACALC has a beautifully simple method of reading and writing data files, so you can communicate both ways with other programs on your system, such as the Text Editor, Text Processor, Sort/Merge, STYLOGRAPH™ word processor, RMS™ data base system, or other programs written in BASIC, C, PASCAL, FORTRAN, and so on.

**7. How fast is DYNACALC?**

Very. Except for a few seldom-used commands, DYNACALC is memory-resident, so there is little disk I/O to slow things down. The whole data array (worksheet) is in memory, so access to any point is instantaneous. DYNACALC is 100% 6809 machine code for blistering speed.

**8. Is there a version of DYNACALC for MY system?**

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**9. How much does DYNACALC cost?**

The FLEX versions are just \$200 per copy; UniFLEX version \$395; OS-9 version (works with LEVEL ONE or LEVEL TWO) \$250. Orders outside North America add \$7 per copy for postage. We encourage dealers to handle DYNACALC, since it's a product that sells instantly upon demonstration. Call or write on your company letterhead for more information.

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---

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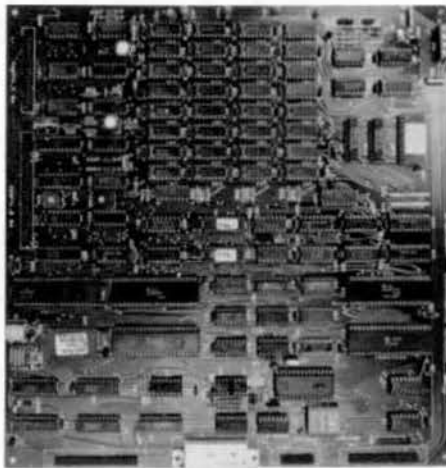
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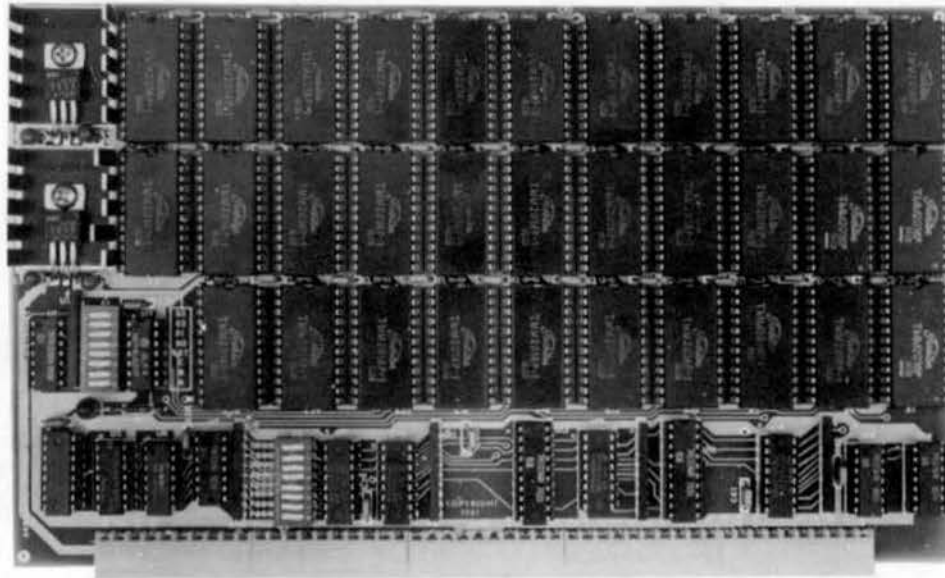
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## Color Micro Journal

The Color Computer Monthly Magazine

\$1.95 per issue Vol. 1, Issue 2 October, 1983

### THIS 'N THAT

The BIG NEWS this month is that OS-9 has finally arrived for the Color Computer. The ASTOUNDING part of the Radio Shack OS-9 Package, besides the price, is the **COLORATION**. You 'Old Time Radio Shack Followers' will not believe what you see. Jon Shirley has been telling us that the main reason for the "lack" of documentation with a lot of their products was the restrictions placed on releasing that information by Microsoft. I

One of the "Operating Systems of the Future" is now available for the "little old color Computer": OS-9. Freely translated, OS-9 means "Operating System for the 6809" (OS-9 is now being written for the 68000, also). Since it is fairly obvious that UNIX and "UNIX-Type" Operating Systems will be running on just about every computer to come out in the next few years, a whole new language is beginning to appear on the horizon.

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2716	•	•	•	•	•	•
2716*	•	•	•	•	•	•
2532	•	•	•	•	•	•
2732	•	•	•	•	•	•
2732A	•	•	•	•	•	•
2564	•	•	•	•	•	•
2764	•	•	•	•	•	•
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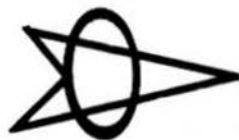
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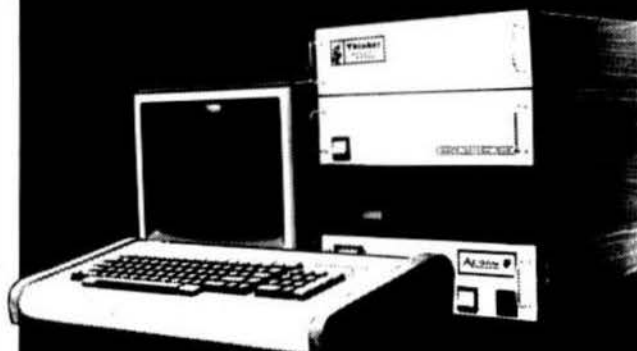
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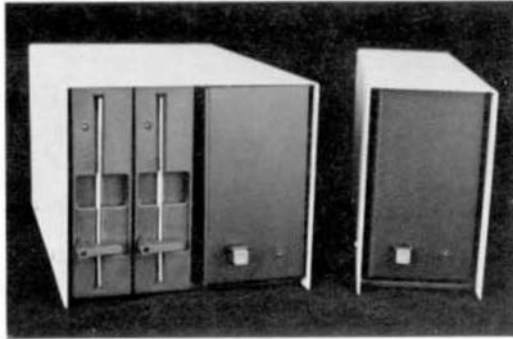
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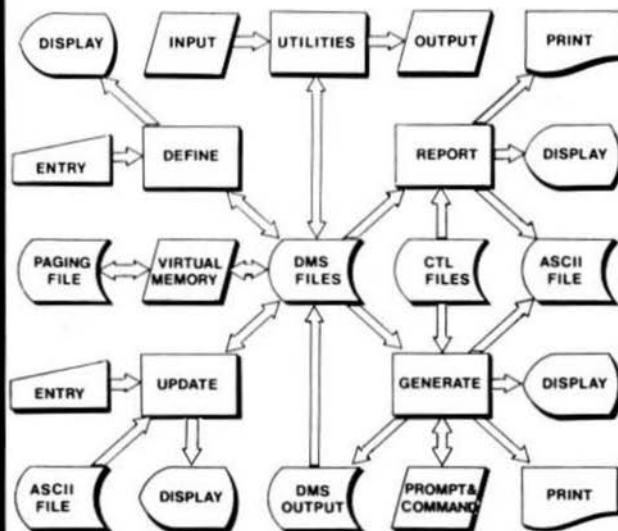
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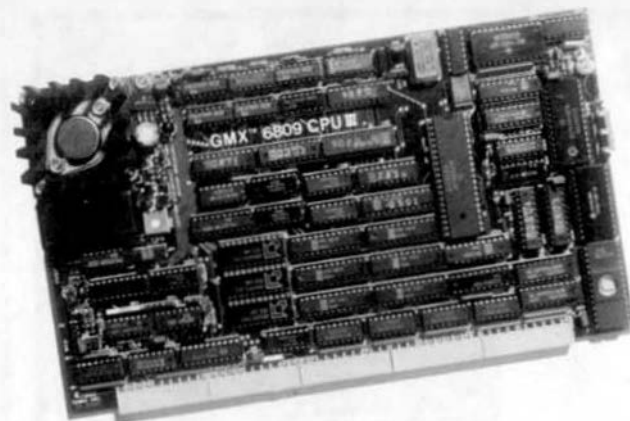
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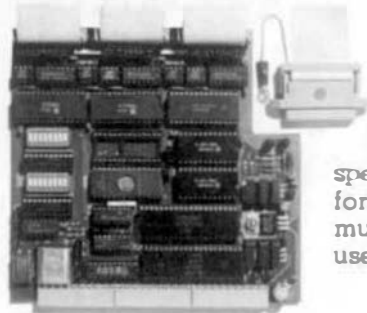
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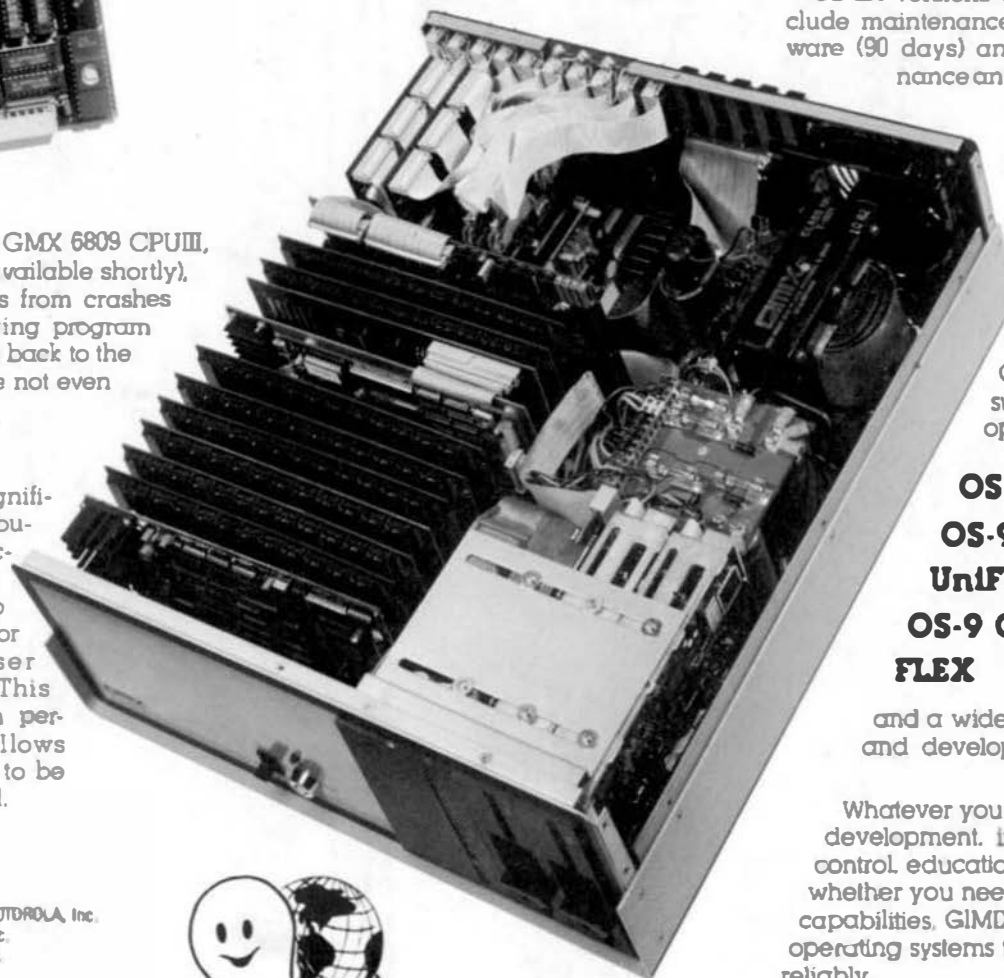
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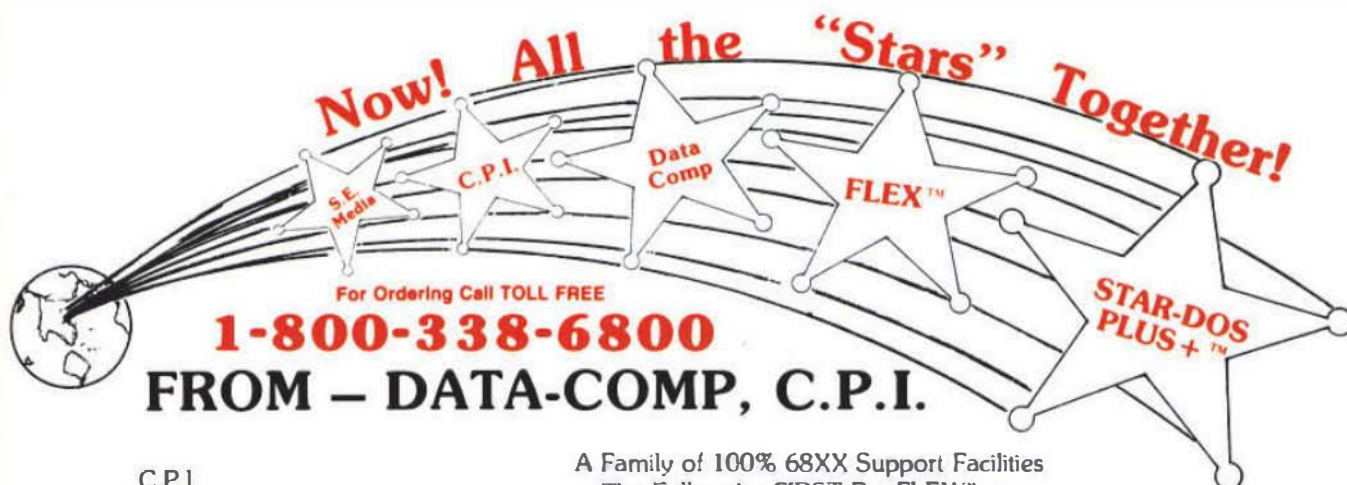
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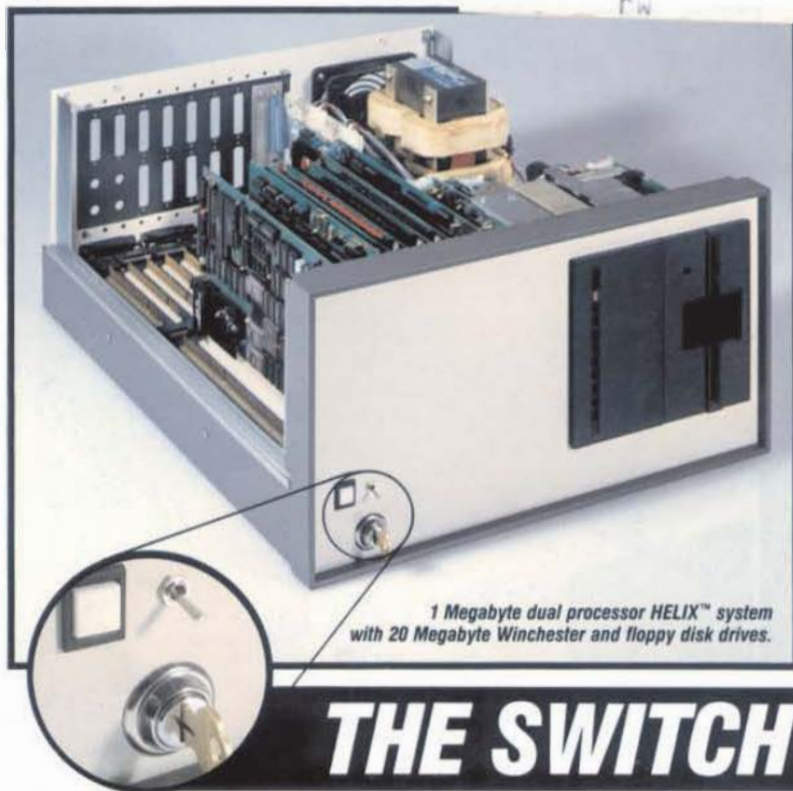
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#### COMPUTER SYSTEMS

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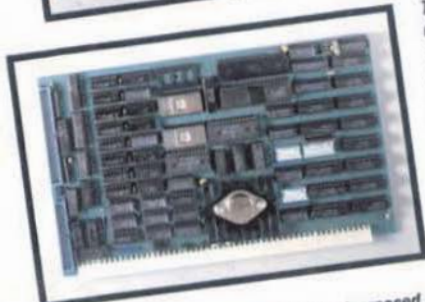
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